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SECOND SERIES

OF

USEFUL HINTS FOR LABOURERS;

SELECTED FROM THE PUBLICATIONS

OF THE

LABOURERS' FRIEND SOCIETY,

AND

REPUBLISHED UNDER THEIR DIRECTION.

LONDON:
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PREFACE.

SECOND SERIES.

THE favourable reception given by the Public to the First Series of *Useful Hints to the Labourer*, and the testimony inferred from the rapid sale of nearly *Five Thousand* copies, have induced the Committee of the LABOURERS' FRIEND SOCIETY to concur in an arrangement for the publication of a Second Series, which they trust will be found as instructive, interesting, varied, and useful as the former.

In this humble effort to benefit the labouring classes, it has been the object of the Committee to unite in these publications, in such a form as to induce their perusal, moral admonitions, attention to which tends to their improvement, to increase their self-respect, and to make them better members of society; various suggestions relating to their domestic comfort, and the welfare and happiness of their families; useful receipts for daily purposes, together with such religious instruction as is calculated to

make them acquainted with the most obvious duties and the plainest doctrines of the Gospel.

The Alphabetical Arrangement has been adopted in the present as in the former series, being found the most convenient, and the best adapted to the capacity of that class of readers whose welfare it is the design of these publications, and of all other efforts of the Labourers' Friend Society, to promote.

Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.

He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread; but he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding. —PROVERBS.

USEFUL HINTS.

SECOND SERIES.

ACQUAINTANCE WITH GOD.

THERE is no such thing as looking death in the face with a holy and yet humble boldness, without an acquaintance with God in Jesus Christ. Acquainted with God we must be; but we cannot be acquainted with him as the Prince of Peace, the eternal and all-sufficient good; we cannot live to any really good purpose on earth; we cannot die in any good hope; we cannot enter the glories of heaven, except we are first made humble disciples in the school of Christ. Thus, the best blessings, temporal, spiritual, and eternal, shall be the portion of that man alone who is scripturally acquainted with his God.

Acquaintance with God demands a walk of light and holiness. Acquaintance with God brings with it its own reward. But acquaintance with God brings with it the highest and holiest responsibilities. You must not be conformed to this world, but being transformed by the renewing of your minds, prove what is the good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.—*Cottager's Monthly Visitor.*

ADVICE TO COTTAGERS.

LET this be your first rule, that whatever you do, you do it well, you do it thoroughly; many a man is tempted to undertake too much, to engage in too many things, and consequently, to do nothing well. He incurs too often

the expense, but does not reap the fruits, of his outlay, whether in labour or in money. He is apt to say, for instance, when order and neatness are recommended to him, "All this *looks well*, and is very suitable for a gentleman, but what does it signify to a poor man like myself?" The real answer to such doubts, the offspring of indolence, is, that neatness and order are economy: and is it nothing for a poor man to avoid waste? in other words, to practise economy? Is it nothing to a labouring man to be able to make his tools last longer by a little care, than they would without that care? to make his clothes serve him and his family better for being put out of harm's way when they are no longer wanted? Is it nothing to a poor man that the furniture of his house should supply his wants for as long a time as possible? and thus that he should be saved from the expense of having to replace it? Yet the only means of ensuring these objects are, order and neatness, or, as it may be explained in short, by having a place and a time for everything, and by letting everything be kept to its time and place. I have often seen, from a want of attention to this rule, children, and men too, laboriously collecting a scanty supply of manure from what they can pick up on the roads, when they allow the offscourings of their own houses to run not only to waste, but to become a nuisance to themselves and others; whereas, had they but taken the trouble to collect these in a hole, through a drain, which any man might make to his house, at the expense of a little labour, he would possess at hand more manure than the utmost labour of himself and his family would enable him to draw together from other sources,—more probably than his garden would require, —and he would have the advantage of a clean, pleasant, and healthy dwelling. These are advantages springing directly from care, industry, and forethought; but there are many incidental benefits to be derived from these sources, which will never be guessed at till the time comes when they may be enjoyed. There are, also,

many incidental losses and inconveniences not, perhaps, to be foreseen, that may be avoided in this way.—"*Cottage Gardening*," *Saturday Magazine.*

ON AFFLICTION.

LET us speak of afflictions. A Christian stands in need of afflictions to separate him from his corruptions; let him, therefore, under the painful dispensation of his heavenly Father, ever remember that he is not like men of the world; and that, however trees in the wilderness may grow without culture, trees in the garden must be pruned to be made fruitful, and corn fields must be broken up when barren heaths are left untouched.

AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

IT appears desirable that agricultural labourers should learn to do various kinds of work, as thatching, hedging, ditching, &c., instead of confining themselves to any particular employment. It is found that if a farmer has not the work which each labourer can do, he is obliged to discharge those whom he could otherwise employ, and look out for a hedger, a ditcher, or whatever the work to be done on his farm requires, instead of setting those now in his service to various employments.

CHEAP AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Labourers' Friend Magazine* mentions a school of practical agriculture for poor children recently established in France, where the sale of less than one-half of the produce is found sufficient to cover the expenses, a portion being given to the most industrious pupils, and recommends the plan for adoption in England.

"Might not the salaries of masters be saved in country parishes, at least in part, by their being allowed to rent from one to five acres of land, on condition of teaching reading, &c., till noon, and having their

scholars' services in digging, dibbling, weeding, and stall-feeding, in the after part of the day?

"As this mode of payment would depend on their diligent cultivation of the soil, are not the children likely to be skilled as soon as their strength permits, to earn their own living in a way that would add greatly to individual and national prosperity? By dibbling wheat alone, as long practised in Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincoln, and Hertfordshire, as compared with broadcasting, which requires three bushels the acre, half the seed may be saved, that is, one bushel and a half, and the grain in the crop being admitted to be four bushels, makes five bushels and a-half, which at 80*s.* the quarter, is 55*s.*; this after paying 7*s.* for dibbling, leaves a clear gain to the farmer of 48*s.* per acre; and even if the price sunk to 5*s.* a bushel, would still give 20*s.* per acre for the trouble of superintending the work, and it would be so much lessened by children being practised in it at school.

"Though high prices may benefit *a few*, it can be only *a few*, for prices can never be generally high but when crops are deficient, and high prices are not remunerating prices to those who have *nothing to sell*, whereas if corn was cheap, from being in excess, it could be stored, used to feed cattle, or exported; and twelve months since, both the American and Egyptian governments invited importation of grain.

"If schoolmasters were directed to keep daily accounts of work and produce, which might be copied as writing lessons by their scholars, authentic documents in each parish might be obtained.

"Competition between neighbouring schoolmasters would be promoted by prizes being awarded by the resident clergy: and thus, *without cost, experimental farms* would be established throughout England, by which the capabilities of its soil might be ascertained; for all the capital needed is for the purchase of forks, hoes, rakes, and dibbles, with a cask to hold them when out of use; flails and thrashing-floors would also be saved by the

children taking the straw up by handfuls, and dashing the ears over a cask, which quickly removes the grain, and in Cornwall is termed making reed; the straw not being bruised, a small quantity is sufficient for thatching, when bound on with straw bands. No barn is needed for housing corn, because corn keeps freer from vermin and mildew by being stacked like the ridge of a house, when as many sheaves as can be cleared before night might be taken from one end daily into the school-room, and when a sack is filled, the boys could draw it in a hand-cart to the mill, which hand-cart would be useful for taking out solid manure, and liquid manure too, if slung under it in a barrel, duly diluted, as in Belgium, Holland, &c., and given to growing potato, turnip, and mangel-wurzel plants. Cows, if milked three times a day, might be as profitable here as on those parts of the Continent which furnish us with butter, and the well-known Dutch cheese.

"And girls taught to milk, &c., might tempt farmers to increase their dairies. For glebe land, increased rent might be had from schoolmasters; for at East Dean, J. P. has given 3*l.* more than the last tenant for a house, cow-stall, and four acres of land, on condition of teaching the boys of the neighbourhood at one penny a week, reading, writing, and accounts from nine till twelve, and tilling the ground from two till five o'clock; and E. C. has given 60*s.* per acre, for five acres, in the adjoining parish of Willingdon, Sussex, on the same conditions.

THE ALLOTMENT SYSTEM.

AN ENCOURAGING EXAMPLE. *Eastbourne, November 14th*, 1838.—I, Thomas Pierce, hired of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert forty rods of land: twenty rods I sowed with the white chaff red wheat, and twenty rods I planted with potatoes. The produce of wheat from the twenty rods was six bushels and ten trusses of straw; and the pro-

duce of the potatoes from the twenty rods, forty-nine bushels*.

We are very thankful for this land, without which I believe my mother and I must have gone into the workhouse. THOMAS PIERCE.

FRUITFULNESS OF ALLOTMENTS.—At the meeting of the Battel Horticultural Society, held the 11th of July, 1839, prizes were given to the following cottagers for eight roots of wheat, with from forty-six to one hundred and fifteen ears each; viz:

Edward Mayler	46 ears.
Henry Penfield	61 "
Richard White	72 "
John White	73 "
William White	79 "
John White	84 "
Henry Penfield	89 "
Richard White	115 "

At the same meeting it was reported that another allotment tenant, Benjamin King, has now growing on his ground eleven fine plants of wheat from eleven grains; one with ninety-four ears and one with one hundred and seven, and some of the straw upwards of five feet and a-half high.

One of the tenants at Hadlow, who occupies only thirteen rods of land, for which he pays a rent of three shillings and threepence per annum, has this year grown one thousand fine cabbages of the red kind for pickling. Between the rows of cabbages he had a most abundant crop of peas, which he has reaped, and sown the same space with turnips, which are now growing, and promise to be a fair crop. The whole of the produce of this three and threepenny rental is estimated at nearly six pounds.

* The average produce of England is not 30 bushels; and this is at the rate of 48,—that is, half as much more than farmers usually obtain. 49 bushels, multiplied by 8, is at the rate of 392 bushels per acre.

MORAL EFFECT OF THE ALLOTMENT SYSTEM.—The magistrates of West Kent having met to consider the propriety of carrying into effect the Rural Police Act, requested an account of the number of allotment tenants in forty-two parishes in West Kent, and the number of offences against the laws of their country committed by the same, when the following satisfactory statement was presented to them:—There were in all the forty-two parishes near two thousand tenants, amongst whom there had been only *five* commitments in *four* years; and even these might be accounted for, from the fact, that several tenants had had land granted to them, with a view to their improvement, who had previously been committed to prison for poaching and various offences; and in the majority of instances their reformation had been effected. One man who had been in prison seven times, and had begged pardon of the magistrates and others for different offences fourteen times, has had land for two years, and during that period he has given no cause whatever for complaint, but has conducted himself in a steady, honest, respectable manner.

RULES FOR ALLOTMENT TENANTS.—"The following rules and regulations," it is stated by a correspondent, "have been found to work advantageously:—

"I. The occupiers of allotments to cultivate the land by manual labour alone.

"II. After the expiration of the first year, no part of the land to be planted with potatoes until after having been properly manured; and no crop of any kind to occupy more than one-half of the land.

"III. In case any allotment be given up, the occupiers to be paid for digging and planting according to custom.

"IV. Should any holder be convicted of theft or misdemeanor, either before a magistrate or by the committee, he will be subject to immediate ejectment.

"V. If any allotment be not properly cultivated, or if

any of the rules laid down by the committee are wilfully violated, the tenant will be subject to ejectment at the end of the year, but remuneration will be allowed for labour and planting.

"VI. The holders of allotments must mutually agree to prevent depredations and encroachments, and to defend each other's property, by assisting in the conviction of any persons destroying the crops or injuring the fences.

"VII. No allotment, nor any part of any allotment, shall be underlet.

"VIII. The fences to be preserved in good repair, and each tenant to keep up his respective share.

"IX. Four annual visitors shall be chosen, half by the majority of the tenants, the other half by the committee, to whom disputes shall be referred, and who shall report to the committee on the state of the allotments.

"X. Prizes will be distributed yearly by the committee to those tenants who have cultivated their land best, and with the least assistance from the parish, in proportion to their families and circumstances.

"XI. The rent to be paid quarterly."

To these rules should be added one prohibiting irreligion and immorality, as in the following:—

"RULES TO BE OBSERVED BY THE LABOURERS WHO RENT LAND OF THE REV. J. E. A. LEIGH.—Each parcel of land consists of rather more than a quarter of an acre, and is let for ten shillings a-year. The rent is to be regularly paid on the last day of every year. Tithes and rates are paid by the landlord. Tenants must observe the following rules:—

"1. The land must be dug with a spade.

"2. The land is not to be underlet to any other person.

"3. The same kind of crop may not be grown upon the same ground for two following years.

"4. Each tenant must keep the path adjoining to his own land in good order.

"5. If any tenant generally neglects his church; if he is found at work on a Sunday, or in any way profanes the Sabbath; if he be a drunkard; if he be convicted of any offence against the laws, or be proved guilty of any immoral practice, he shall be deprived of his land at the end of the year.

"These rules will be strictly enforced.

"J. EDWARD AUSTEN LEIGH.

"*Jan.* 1*st*, 1839."

LORD PORTMAN has lately proposed the following regulations to the agricultural poor in his neighbourhood in Dorsetshire. *Land*:—Each parishioner capable of cultivating land may rent as much as he and his family can properly manage, according to the conditions of a lease. *Houses*:—Every parishioner who is independent of the parish may have a spot of land on which to build a cottage, according to a plan to be agreed on, and to be supplied with rough stone and timber according to the conditions of a lease. *Prizes* given at the end of seven years to the person whose land and cottage shall be in the best order, and also to the second best of each class.—*Morning Post.*

ANNUITIES.

A NEW branch has recently been added, under the sanction of the Legislature, to the operations of Savings' Banks, by which, if it were generally adopted, the system would be rendered complete. The object of the formation of savings' bank annuities is to enable any person above the age of fifteen to purchase, by the payment of a certain sum in the first instance, or by weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly instalments, an annuity of not less than four pounds, nor exceeding twenty pounds, to commence at any age the purchaser may wish.

The transactions are, in general, to be conducted through the medium of savings' banks; but in places

where such institutions do not exist, the business of an annuity fund may be managed by a society established for the purpose, provided the clergyman of the parish, or a resident justice of the peace, be one of the trustees.

The rules of every such society must be transmitted to the certifying barrister, who will immediately furnish the managers with the necessary forms, together with the system of book-keeping, and any further information that may be specially applied for. The necessary tables, &c. have been calculated by Mr. Finlaison, and are published by authority.

Every possible facility is afforded by law to enable the purchasers of savings' bank annuities to reap the full benefit of their produce. The treasurer and paid officers are required to give security for the faithful execution of their trust; and no stamp-duty or charge of any kind is exacted from the annuitants, excepting a fee of two shillings and sixpence on admission, and a contribution of one shilling annually towards the expenses of the institution. Upon the death of the person on whose life the annuity depended, a sum equal to one-fourth part of the annuity will be payable to the party interested, or (supposing the annuity to be on his own life) to his executors. If a purchaser is unable to continue the payment of his instalments, he may at any time, on giving three months' notice, receive back the whole of the money he has paid, though without interest; and if the purchaser of a deferred life annuity die before the time arrives at which the annuity is to commence, the whole of the money he has actually contributed will be returned to his family without deduction.

The advantages, and, above all, the security of this plan, to the industrious classes in general, and to domestic servants in particular, greatly exceed any which can be given by benefit societies, and even those which attend the deposit of savings in the ordinary manner, since a much smaller payment will suffice to ensure an adequate provision for old age.

A mechanic in good employ, earning twenty or thirty shillings a week, might easily contrive to put by three shillings and sixpence weekly from the age of twenty-five to forty-five; and for this sum he might enjoy the certainty of receiving twenty pounds a year from the age of forty-five for the remainder of his days. Or, if a domestic servant or labouring man would determine to lay by on the average three or four pounds annually in the interval between his twentieth and his fortieth years, he might, at the expiration of that period, purchase with his accumulated savings an annuity, to commence at the age of sixty, which would support him in comfort and independence during the season of infirmity and decline. The records of the Exeter bank have proved that such savings are practicable in every rank of society excepting the very lowest. Were they universally made, where would be the necessity for our almshouses and our work-houses for the aged and infirm? A miserable asylum do they offer at the best, even where fairly earned by a life of laborious industry; and, such as they are, how few can obtain them!

Independently of the advantages which are thus afforded to the industrious classes to obtain by small payments a certain provision in old age, or at any other stated period, secured by government, and of which they cannot be deprived on account of miscalculation, the tables of contributions have been so calculated, that if the purchaser of a deferred life annuity die before the time arrives at which the annuity is to commence, the whole of the money he has actually contributed will be returned, without any deduction, to his family. And if it does not exceed 50*l.*, it is not necessary that probate or letters of administration should be taken out. But if he has left a will, or administration is taken out no stamp or legacy duty is payable in respect of the sum so returnable, if the whole estate, &c. of the member is under 50*l.* And again, if a purchaser is incapable of continuing the payment of his yearly instalments, he

may at any time, upon giving three months' notice, receive back the whole of the money he has paid. No annuity granted will be subject or liable to any taxes, &c.; nor can the same be transferred or assigned, but must continue to be the property, or be received for the benefit of the party by or for whom it was purchased; but in case of the bankruptcy or insolvency of the purchaser of an annuity, the same is to be re-purchased by the commissioners at a valuation according to the tables upon which the annuity was originally granted, and the money will be paid to the assignee for the benefit of the creditors.

ANTICIPATION.

THE anticipations of the Christian, while pursuing his ordinary course in life—sometimes in trouble and sometimes pleasant—are always, in his reflecting moments, sufficiently cheering. He looks forward to the result of the wise choice he has made, and, like a good accountant, sums up the total. Excellence is his delight while here below, and love to God and to his fellow men he constantly cultivates, contemning by his daily conduct the foolish conceit of being put in possession of a heaven for which he is unsuited, or wishing that his Father above were less pure, and less disgusted with sin and immorality than he is. Were such to be the case, he knows that his own happiness, and that of all his kind, would be at stake. He distinguishes the voice of his blessed Saviour, who permits him to call him brother, from that of every impostor, however specious, and shortly will be with him in glory. There no malignant passions can ever reach him; no ignorance, impatience, any more than grief, which is perpetually banished, shall again be his lamentation, while his tranquil soul triumphs in joys inconceivable and eternal. Such are the delightful anticipations of the Christian. Are they yours?

APPLE TREES.

A NEW plan for increasing plantations of apple trees has

ately been carried into extensive practice by the horticulturists of Bohemia. Neither seed nor grafting is required. The process is to take shoots from the choicest sorts, insert them in a potato, and plunge both into the ground, leaving but an inch or two of the shoot above the surface. The potato nourishes the shoot, while it pushes out roots, and the shoot gradually grows up and becomes a beautiful tree, bearing the best fruit, without requiring to be grafted. Whatever may be the success of the undertaking, its novelty at least is an inducement to give it a fair trial.—*Farmer's Magazine.*

BACON.

THE PIG KILLED.—The hair being burnt off, and the hog scraped clean, the inwards are next taken out, and if the wife be not a slattern, here in the mere offal there is food, and good wholesome food too, for a large family, for more than a week, and a hog's pudding or two for a kind and friendly neighbour. The next day, the butcher cuts the hog up, and the house is filled with meat. Souse, griskins, blade-bones, thigh-bones, spare-ribs, chines, belly-pieces, cheeks, all coming into use, one after another, and the last of the latter not before the end of four or five weeks, if proper management exists in the cottager's home.

All the other parts taken away, the two sides that remain, and they are called flitches, are to be cured for bacon. They are first rubbed with a small quantity of saltpetre, on their inside, or flesh sides, then placed one on the other on a broad shelf, or in a salting trough, which has a gutter round its edges to drain away the brine; for to have sweet and fine bacon, the flitches must not lie sopping in the brine, which gives them the taste of barrelled pork or sea junk. Every one knows how different is the taste of fresh, dry salt, to salt in a dissolved state; the one is savoury, the other nauseous. Therefore, change the salt often, once in every four or five days; let it melt and sink in, but let it not lie too

long. Change the flitches, putting that at the top which was first at the bottom. Do this three or four times; it will cost you a trifle more for salt by this mode, but you will be repaid over and over again by the good quality of your bacon.

The flitches of a hog of twelve score, in weather not very damp, will require to be salted about six weeks. It is best to be well salted, especially if it is fat, which bacon should always be. Smoked bacon is certainly a good deal better, and more profitable than bacon merely dried, but where it is the custom to dry, and not to smoke bacon, it need only to be observed, that the drying should be done at a moderate degree of heat. Some bakers have a room or loft over their ovens, and if good-natured people, they would allow the poor man to hang his flitches for a couple of weeks in such a place; after which they may be hung from the beam in the dwelling-room, and they will form a much better picture than paltry, lying, and often obscene caricature prints. *Meat in the house* is a great source of harmony, a great preventive of the temptation to commit those things which from small beginnings lead, finally, to the most dreadful and fatal results. As to the cost, a pig four months old may be bought at from ten to fifteen shillings; the cost till fattening time is next to nothing to a cottager, and then, the cost at the present price of corn would, for a hog of twelve score, not exceed fifty shillings or three pounds; and this sum may be got together by the poorest person, by means of those useful institutions, the savings' banks, or if such an institution is not within his reach, the poor man will always find an anxious and willing friend to help him to the advantages thereof in the clergyman of the parish in which he resides.

CURING OF BACON.—The most important part of the cottager's pig is that made into bacon for keeping the house well, as the French and the Scots expressively term it; though, besides this, there are a great many

excellent meals to be made out of the parts which cannot be made into bacon.

When the pig has been killed, the first thing to be done is to get the hair off. Scalding and shaving is the common method; but as it tends to make the meat loose, flabby, and vapid to the taste, singing, as practised in Hampshire, is much preferable. Take care that the animal be dry before killing, and afterwards lay it on one side, cover it thinly with straw, light this to windward, and as it burns away, renew it twice or thrice, till the hair is all singed off, taking particular care not to scorch or burn the skin itself. Do the under side in the same manner. Then, without using any water, scrape the singed hair cleanly off. Mr. Cobbett recommends the operation to be performed in the morning before the sun is up.

The whole of the entrails are then taken out, and made the most of by the housewife; and the carcase being hung up to cool till next day, the two sides or flitches are cut up for bacon.

The inside or flesh side of each flitch must now be very thoroughly rubbed with salt, and laid above one another, the rind side uppermost, in a tray having a gutter round the edges for the brine to run into, nothing being more injurious to the flavour than soaking in brine.

Once every four days in damp weather, and every five or six days in dry weather, rub in fresh salt, and change the flitches by putting the bottom one at the top.

The place best adapted for the process must be like a dairy—cool, but not damp, and well aired. Frosty weather is not advantageous. The time of salting will vary with the size of the flitches, and the dryness or dampness of the weather; from five to seven weeks or more, if the flitches are very fat, very large, and the weather very dry. Without being immediately smoked, or having more salt, they will take no harm by lying afterwards for a month or two.

Merely drying bacon is not so good as smoking it; but

no cottager can smoke his bacon at home who burns any fuel but wood, in which case the flitches are to be hung up in the chimney, far enough from the fire not to melt, and continued long enough not to render it as dry as a chip.

When there is no convenience for smoking, the next best thing is to dry it by hanging it up near the fire, but out of reach of smoke.—*Hand-Book of Allotment Agriculture.*

THE YORKSHIRE METHOD OF CURING BACON.—The pigs are (as they call it) hungered twenty-four and sometimes thirty-six hours before they are killed, then hung twenty-four hours in a cool place. They are cut up and conveyed to leaden bowls, and having with the hand wiped salt over the swarth (skin), care is taken to stop the salt and saltpetre into the shank ends, in order that it may effectually reach the bone. The flesh side is then turned uppermost, covered with salt and sprinkled with saltpetre. For a 20 stone pig, the proportions are one stone of the former and one pound of the latter. After lying about a week the bacon is all removed—that which has been uppermost is put lowest, and more salt is added to those parts from which it may have disappeared. In three or four weeks it is fit to hang up to dry, and it has never in a single instance, been known to fail. Mind the following obvious rules:—1st. The pig must fast: this relieves the vessels that, in a loaded state, are apt to putrefy. 2nd. The killing must be quick and without irritation. 3rd. Thoroughly cooled before salting. 4th. Not rubbed, as this only excites the putrefactive process, and you never can rub salt through the skin. 5th Placed in lead or stone if at hand. 6th. Stop the salt well into the shank ends, and move it, and add salt, as before directed, frequently.

IMPROVEMENT OF IRISH BACON.—The shoulders of Irish bacon may often be bought very cheap, and, as it is not very well cured, the following method will make it like ham:—Wash it well in hot water; when quite clean, let it lie in cold water five or six days, then rub it well with this mixture,—1 lb. of sugar, 1 lb. of salt, and 1 oz.

of saltpetre, turning it and washing it well with the liquor for three or more weeks.

The backs of *very* fat sheep may be salted and smoked to great advantage, and will keep a long time: so may *very* fat parts of beef, but not the lean.

HOGS' LARD.—Melt the inside fat or flare of the pig very carefully in a jar, put into a kettle of water, and set on the fire to boil, adding a sprig of rosemary while the lard melts.—Run it into clean small bladders, or into crocks tied over and placed upon a shelf bottom upwards.

BEER.

MALT LIQUOR has a highly nourishing power, and appears to be quite necessary for hard-working men. Mr. Chadwick, when taking evidence on the subject of the poor laws, questioned a labourer of superior strength as to his diet. This man said that the beer which his wife brewed for him (which was ten or twelve gallons from half a bushel of malt) was as good beer as he could desire for the hardest work. Stronger beer excited him, and as the excitement was for a short time, a repetition of the stimulus was necessary. Mr. Chadwick tasted the beer, which possessed little strength for excitement, and none for intoxication. It appeared, however, to be the beverage which the labourers themselves preferred when working piece-work, when, of course, their object was to sustain their strength the most beneficially, and produce the greatest amount of work.

CHEAP TABLE BEER.—*Wotton-under-Edge, September* 22, 1838. Sir, Having read in your excellent paper (for September last) addressed to the labourers, a useful hint for brewing good table beer, I thought I would make a trial of it myself, and afterwards put the result of it to paper, for the benefit of those who should feel inclined to try it for themselves. I have now tried it exactly as specified in the paper, as to the quantity of the mate-

rials, but with an improvement in preparing it so as to boil it at twice instead of at once. I would recommend all the malt and hops to be put into the boiler together, with two-thirds of the treacle; but instead of putting with it eleven gallons of water, I would only put seven. I then boil it altogether for two hours, the time specified, stirring it frequently during its boiling. At the expiration of the two hours I then remove it in a bucket to the cooler, and strain it,—malt, hops, and liquid,—through a hair sieve. When the liquid has all passed through the sieve, I take the malt and hops a second time to the boiler, and with the remaining four gallons of water and treacle I have a second boiling for half an hour; I then remove it to the cooler as before, and strain it a second time until all the liquid has passed the sieve; the wort being then sufficiently cooled, I put into it half-a-pint of fresh barm, and stir it well together. When it is well mixed I cover the cooler with an old sack, and in about four hours there is a fine head to it; I then let it remain for six hours longer before I turn it, first taking off the head of barm; it soon after begins to work very nicely through the head of the cask, and in six or eight hours more, the working is finished, and you can slightly bung it. I would recommend the cooler to be placed under cover as soon as the barm is put in and stirred, that it may forward the process of working. I will now give a statement of the expense in making it, and the after profits thereon, sincerely wishing the poor labouring man may be enabled to brew his own table beer, and thus keep him from the beer-shop.

FIRST EXPENSE.	s.	d	PRODUCE.	s.	d.
One peck of the best malt...	1	10½	Seven gallons of beer at 1d..	7	0
Half a pound of Farnham hops	1	0	Two quarts of ditto, ditto...	0	6
Three pounds of treacle....	1	1½	One quart of barm.....	0	3
Half-a-pint of barm	0	2		8	9
Coals.....	0	4			
	4	6			

I remain, Sir, yours very faithfully,

A SUBSCRIBER TO THE LABOURERS' FRIEND MAGAZINE

WHOLESOME, PALATABLE, AND CHEAP TABLE BEER.—Put eleven gallons of water, a peek of malt, half a pound of hops, and three pounds of treacle, into the copper; boil all together for two hours; then pour it through a hair sieve into a cooler; let it stand to cool till about seventy degrees, or what is commonly called new-milk warm, then put in about half a pint of yeast, and stir it well; let it stand a few hours till it has acquired a head; skim this head off, and then tun your beer; before it has quite done working, bung it down, and in a week it will be fit for drinking. There being a larger proportion of hops than is generally used will take off any unpleasant flavour from the treacle, and will cause the beer to keep better.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.* The writer states the above as the result of the experience of five brewings.

TO BREW ALE OR BEER IN A TEA-KETTLE.—Put into a tea-pot a handful of malt, and fill it up with hot water, not quite boiling, and keep adding water and pouring it out till it becomes tasteless; the strength of the malt is thus extracted like the strength of the tea-leaves. This malt-tea, boiled with a few hops, and when cooled to about blood-heat, having a little yeast added to it to make it ferment, will produce a quantity of ale or beer, according to the strength you have made it. Apply this, which is the whole art of brewing, to the making of a larger quantity, and you cannot be out. A peck of malt, and four ounces of hops, will produce ten quarts of ale, better than any you can purchase, and for this purpose all you require is a large tea-kettle and two pans. For a larger quantity you must have a mash tub and oar, a sieve and two coolers, a wicker hose, a spigot and faucit, with two nine-gallon casks. These will cost about two pounds, new, and you may brew four bushels of malt with them, and, allowing four pounds of hops, this will yield nine gallons of the best ale, and nine of excellent table-beer.

SCOTCH ALE.—The wort is made and boiled with the

hops in the usual manner, adding three-fourths of an ounce of isinglass to every hogshead of wort; but instead of cooling it, and adding the yeast to produce fermentation, the hot liquor is put immediately into the cask, and in some days it cools, and then ferments in a peculiar manner, without the addition of any ferment; and in the usual time it is converted into an excellent liquor, quite fine and mellow. I am told it generally turns out to be superior to beer brewed in the usual way; at the same time there is a saving of one-fourth part of the malt, three bushels producing as good a cask of beer as four in the old method.—*Bucks Gazette.*

BEET-ROOT.

This vegetable is little known but as a garnish, and to colour pickled cabbage; but it is an excellent vegetable for eating. Let it be washed and brushed (not scraped, like a carrot); leave the short stalks which have borne the leaves, also the small side and end rootlets, during the time of boiling, that the skin may not be wounded. Beet-root requires to be boiled from three quarters of an hour to an hour and a half, according to its size; when ready, peel it and trim it. Whatever is left after dinner should be cut into slices about a quarter of an inch thick, laid neatly in a dish, and vinegar poured over the whole. By the next day at dinner time or even the same night, it will be ready, and should be eaten with pepper, salt, oil, and vinegar; it is a good addition either to hot or cold meat. It becomes a very mild kind of pickle, and is very wholesome with salted meat: it will keep (if treated as above) for a fortnight.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

BEES.

Directions for their Management throughout the Year.

January.—The bees will be found more or less active this month according to the openness of the season.

Should anything occur to render it necessary to inspect the inside of the hive, choose a fine dry day for the purpose, as *damp* destroys more hives than cold. If a rustling noise is heard, it is a sign your bees are in good health; but should you discover blackish spots on the stool, you may consider it certain they are unhealthy, in which case it will be necessary to give them some food with an extra quantity of salt mixed in it.

The proper food for bees is a pint of ale to a pound of sugar, and about half an ounce of salt; the whole boiled together and skimmed. When cold it will have the consistency of honey.

FEBRUARY.—This may be called the first month of the year in which the labour of the bee commences. Occasionally a shallow plateful of the syrup recommended in January as the proper food for bees should be given to each hive. Do not believe that feeding bees makes them lazy; on the contrary, a partial feeding this month will hasten the swarms, and make them earlier than usual.

MARCH.—Attend to the feeding of weak bees. The best time for feeding during this month is the evening, as it will prevent robbery by stranger bees during the day. The food not consumed should be taken away in the morning, and restored again at night, until you find it is not required. The warmer hives are now kept the better, as it hastens the hatching of the eggs, and promotes the prolific nature of the queen. This is considered a good time for the purchase of stock hives. Having survived the winter, little fear may be entertained of their not succeeding afterwards.

APRIL.—The provident cottager will this month provide himself with the number of hives he is likely to require for his swarms. He will find it greatly to his advantage never to put a swarm into an old hive. Towards the latter end of the month some drones may be observed; this is a good sign, as early drones denote early swarms. It may be well to keep an eye on the hives in the evening, and destroy any of the little

speckled moths, which may be reckoned amongst the principal enemies of bees. The same may be said of wasps; every one of them should be watched, and, if possible, destroyed as soon as they make their appearance.

MAY.—This may be considered, in some respects, as the busiest month in the year with bees. The drones will now have made their appearance, which is the first indication of a thriving hive. As the bees increase, they will be seen hanging in large numbers under the stool, or clustering round the entrance so as almost to prevent the working bees from gaining admission. When they remain out all night it is a sure sign they are near swarming, and preparations should be made, so that there may be no delay in brushing them into the hive immediately after the swarm has settled.

JUNE.—The second swarms are generally thrown in the early part of this month; and towards the latter end of it the virgin swarms may be expected. A false value, however, is too often placed on virgin swarms. The great objection to them arises from the uncertainty of the weather and the chance of the bees not making a sufficiency of food to maintain themselves during winter. Third swarms ought always to be returned to the parent hive. Should the bees of any hive lie out in clusters it will be necessary to place an eek, consisting of three or four bands, under it. This will give more room, and cause the bees to renew their labour.

This is the best time for beginners purchasing the first swarms and removing them. Remember that first swarms invariably begin the construction of their combs in the middle of the hive, while second swarms begin at one of the sides.

JULY.—The swarming season may be considered past, and the chief thing now requiring attention is, to preserve the hives from the attacks of stranger bees and wasps. The drones are very often killed in this month, and most value should be set upon those hives

which destroy their drones the earliest, as it will invariably be found that their produce is much greater than of those which do not kill their drones until late in the season.

AUGUST.—In many counties of England the keepers of bees now begin to suffocate them, from the ill-founded supposition that the honey season is over. This is a very great error, as it is well known that during this month many of the plants most frequented by bees are only in blossom. The hives therefore ought not to be touched until the season is further advanced. The proper time for depriving bees of their honey is when the flowers of the heath begin to decay.

SEPTEMBER.—This is an important month to the cottager, as he will now begin to reap the fruits resulting from the care and attention he has bestowed on his hives. Those intended for store should be selected first. The others are then to be put down in the usual way by suffocating the bees—a method so generally known as to render any remark unnecessary.

OCTOBER.—The hives, this month, should be weighed, and after an allowance is made for the weight of the hive and the bees, an estimate may be formed of the actual quantity of honey. This must be your guide for feeding. Such hives, therefore, as appear weak, ought to be bountifully fed with the syrup mentioned in January. The covering of hives should now be particularly attended to; not for the purpose of keeping them warm, but to keep them dry.

NOVEMBER.—Attend to the directions for last month, and keep your hives dry. It has been proved by experiment that bees which are kept very warm by covering the hives, consume eight pounds of food more than is consumed by bees exposed to the natural changes of the weather. If a certainty exists of there being plenty of food in store, there is no objection to covering and keeping warm, as it will tend to hasten the swarming, perhaps a week or ten days.

DECEMBER.—The less the bees are examined in this month the better. Therefore nothing should be attempted which has a tendency to diminish the temperature of the hives.

BLACKBERRY JAM.

THIS conserve is the greatest, the most innocent, and certainly the least expensive treat that can be provided for children, and (with the exception of treacle) is the aliment of all others most useful in regulating the bowels. The generality of jams and jellies are made with white sugar, and the proportions are weight for weight with fruit; hence the obvious objections to their frequent use among children are, the constipating nature of the loaf sugar, and the enormous quantity that must be eaten of it before a sufficient bulk of the preserve can be obtained. The indispositions to which young persons are liable, probably proceed from the acid formed in the stomach from their indulgence in sweet things. The cheapness of this delicate jam is astonishing; at the expense of ninepence or tenpence they might provide their little families with three pounds of a wholesome luxury. To make it, add to every pound of the berries half a pound of the coarsest moist sugar, and boil it rather more than three quarters of an hour, keeping it stirred all the time.—*The Doctor.*

BREAD.

HOME-MADE BREAD.—Procure a stone of wheaten flour, put this into a trough or tub, make a deep hole in the middle of the heap, and pour into this hole a quarter of a pint of good fresh yeast, previously mixed with an equal quantity of warm water, and two ounces of salt; stir into this with a spoon as much of the surrounding flour as will bring it to the consistence of thin batter; sprinkle a handful of dry flour over this, cover it with a cloth, and place it in a warm situation to rise. The completion of this operation will be rendered evident by the cracking of the flour that is sprinkled over the batter; then proceed

to form the whole of the flour into dough, adding such further quantity of warm water as will bring it to an uniformly stiff consistence; this done, the dough must be well kneaded, so that all lumps of flour may be broken down, and the ingredients may be thoroughly mixed and worked together. This is the principal part of the operation, and indeed is the only part deserving the name of labour. It should be continued until the closed hand, on being withdrawn, no longer brings away with it any portion of the dough, but leaves its impression perfect therein. When it is accomplished, place the dough again in a warm place to rise, covering it over with a blanket, and then proceed to heat the oven.

If the flour employed is of good quality, it will take up so much water as, together with the yeast, will convert the fourteen pounds into twenty pounds of dough. This, when it has again risen, may be divided into any number of loaves, kneading each lump separately, in order to make it up into the requisite form. Do no more, however, for the attainment of this purpose than is necessary to bring the loaf into shape, since much handling in this stage of the dough causes it to be heavy. The whole should then be put without delay into the oven, the door of which must be carefully closed. Some little practice is required to heat the oven to the degree most proper for baking bread. If it be too hot, or, as the bakers call it, rash, the loaves will be scorched outwardly, while the middle is yet unbaked; and, if the oven be not hot enough, the bread will prove heavy and disagreeable. If it were not for the expense, it would be an excellent plan to have the oven provided with a thermometer, so placed as to shew at a glance the heat of the interior. The simple plan adopted by bakers, and found by them to answer the purpose, is to throw on the floor of the oven a small quantity of flour; and if this becomes black in a short time without taking fire, the heat is considered to be favourable.—*Working Man's Companion.*

SAGO BREAD.—The proportion of sago to wheaten flour, about half; best pearl sago, dissolved in milk-warm water for three hours. Mixed the same way as other bread, and baked two hours in a slack oven.—*Procured from a baker in Scotland, whose Sago Bread is extremely good.*

CAPITAL.

POSSESSION OF CAPITAL BY THE WORKING MAN.—Wealth is the effect of the united efforts of industry and economy. The condition by which the great mass of a nation must support existence is labour. If a working man does not add *economy* to labour, he and his children after him must necessarily obey the laws of their condition, and continue literally to gain their bread by the sweat of their brow. This is an useful and honourable state; but the desire which inspires every man to better his own condition and that of his children is so natural, and is, besides, a source of so much public advantage and private virtue, that it is good to call it forth for the benefit of society generally. That state of society which does not arouse in its members the desire of individual improvement and progressive advancement, is lingering towards its dissolution. In this country, fortunately, every man possesses within himself the means of rising in the world. Labour is only *one* of these means; the other is economy, without which, labour does but enable a man to live "from hand to mouth." We are fully aware that it requires some self-denial to refrain from the indulgences to which a man's associates are generally habituated; but the task is quite practicable; and to convince the reader that it is so, we insert a part of the statement of the Devon and Exeter Savings' Bank, for the year ending 20th November, 1833.

There are here nearly 20,000 persons who have accumulated more than half a million of money. The wages of female servants are lower in Devonshire than in many other counties; yet this class have had the good sense so

to manage them, as to possess more than 100,000*l.* in the bank; and the agricultural labourers, whose wages are not more than 12*s.* or 13*s.* per week, have, by carefulness and sobriety, amassed more than 65,000*l.* The average amount for each investment of sums made by men-servants is 50*l.*—and by female servants, 30*l.* The greater the obstacles which usually prevent economy in these classes, the greater is the merit in having successfully contended against it. Amongst the females, a passion for dress was the means by which their earnings were probably in most danger of being absorbed; and in the men, a love of the excitements of the public-house and beer-shop. The short trial to which they may have been put, in denying themselves these gratifications, has called forth virtues highly valuable and satisfactory in themselves; and the little capital which each can now command, is capable of affording much more lasting and substantial comforts than could have been derived from the display of unnecessary and unsuitable finery, or by the transient enjoyment, followed by repentance, of intemperance.—*Working Man's Year Book.*

CAULIFLOWERS.

Mode of Preserving through the Winter.—By Peter Mackenzie, gardener, West Plean.—Cauliflowers are a great favourite with all ranks of society, and I believe that ever since they have been cultivated, means have been used to preserve them through the winter. I, like the rest of my brethren, have tried various methods to effect this; such as burying them in the earth, hanging them up by the roots, keeping them in frames, &c. But by none of these methods have I succeeded so well as by the one I will presently state, which I have not seen nor heard of being practised by any one else.

Towards the end of autumn, I make a bed, or beds, according to circumstances, of moist sand, in any cool house that will exclude the frost. The beds should be four inches deep. Having previously planted a greater

number of cauliflower plants than would be required at the time they are come into use, I take the surplus, when in a good condition, and cut off their roots, leaving a stalk about three or four inches long; I then cut off all the leaves, except the innermost row; and after shortening these, I insert the stalk in the sand-bed, and cover the cauliflower with a flower-pot. In this manner, a large quantity may be contained in a small space: for example, a bed twelve feet square will hold two hundred and eighty-eight heads, allowing six square inches to each head. Again, by taking those plants that are not in flower, when the frost sets in, and preserving them, in a growing state, in any house or shed where light is admitted, and which will preserve them from a severe frost, they will come into use about the month of January; and, by cutting them, and putting them into the sand-bed, they will continue fit for use till the spring. In this way I have kept cauliflowers to the end of April. It will be necessary, from time to time, to examine and cut off any decayed part that may appear.—*Gardeners' Magazine.*

CHEESE MADE FROM POTATOES.

CHEESE, it is said, of extremely fine quality is made from potatoes, in Thuringia and part of Saxony, in the following manner:—After having collected a quantity of potatoes of good quality, giving the preference to the white kind, they are boiled in a caldron, and after becoming cool, they are peeled and reduced to a pulp, either by means of a grate or mortar. To five pounds of this pulp, which ought to be as equal as possible, is added a pound of sour milk, and the necessary quantity of salt. The whole is kneaded together, and the mixture covered up and allowed to lie three or four days, according to the season. At the end of this time it is kneaded anew, and the cheeses are placed in little baskets, when the superfluous moisture is allowed to escape. They are then allowed to dry in the shade, and placed in layers in large pots or vessels, where they must remain for fifteen days.

The older these cheeses are, the more their quality improves. Three kinds of them are made. The first, which is the most common, is made according to the proportions above indicated; the second, with four parts of potatoes and two parts of curdled milk; the third, with two parts of potatoes and four parts of cow or ewe milk. These cheeses have this advantage over every other kind, that they do not engender worms, and keep fresh for a great number of years, provided they are placed in a dry situation, and in well-closed vessels.

THE CHRISTIAN'S PROSPECTS.

THE king of terrors approaching to destroy my mortal frame, the judge standing at the door to sit in judgment upon me, and eternal ages opening before me, are views that might fill my soul with terror and despair; but if the Christian's inventory be mine, if the eternal God is my portion, the righteousness, atonement, and unsearchable riches of Christ, are made mine by faith, and the renewing and sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit consequently imparted to me, I may then hail death as a servant, sent to bring me home, and the judge as acquitting and bestowing the crown, and eternity as an endless summer of love and light. The blessed certainty of communion with, and fruition of God, may justly fill my soul with transports of praise, of love, and joy.

CLOVEE.

THIS beverage, not generally known, may be a substitute for tea. Bread-crust, or biscuit, roasted or toasted very brown, but not burnt; one, two, or three small cloves cut in two or bruised, put into a tea-pot or jug, with the quantity required, and boiling-water put upon it. A warming, healthy beverage is thus produced, and drank with milk and sugar, like tea.—*Morning Post.*

COOKERY.

FRUGAL COOKERY.—It is of great consequence to those who have but little money to spend, to spend that little

well. If a shilling or two were laid out in some of the coarser parts of beef or mutton, which may be had for three-pence or four-pence a pound, it would be more profitable than buying cheese or butter, or so much bread, as meat would give nearly double the strength at the same cost. Meat goes farthest made into soups or stews; even a pound of meat boiled with a few vegetables, and a little rice or oatmeal to thicken it, will make five or six pints of excellent food. The meat may be taken out, and if warmed up the next day, with some potatoes, a little salt, pepper, and water, it will make a nice dinner, so that a man, for about one shilling and eightpence, might have soup twice in the week, and two dinners of hot meat and potatoes. Two pounds of meat, cut into small pieces, and put into soup, will go as far as three pounds uncut. Ox's head, sheep's head, sheep's trotters, cow's heels, and calf's feet, are not only cheap, but excellent things for a variety of purposes. Cow's heel jelly is one of the most strengthening things that can be taken. Where cleaning or washing is required before cooking, let it be done nicely; the time and trouble are well paid.

COOKING VEGETABLES.—*Beans.* The water in which broad-beans are boiled should be salted, and a quartered onion added to it. They should be long boiled, and are not properly dressed unless they are very tender. Old beans with the skins taken off, may be boiled to a pap, like pease-pudding. In this state they may be tossed up with some green onions and parsley, chopped together, and a little gravy or butter. This dish is unknown in England, but when beans are cheap, it will be found both profitable and palatable. The skins are very easily taken off, but this is best done as soon as possible after shelling the beans.

Kidney Beans and Scarlet-Runners.—The seeds of the white kidney-bean and the scarlet-runner are much used abroad, and a trial of them is much recommended to the British cottager. They should be soaked in

water for several hours—some persons put them in overnight. Put them into cold water for boiling, with some salt in it. They require much boiling when old, but are then best. Check the boiling with a cupful of cold water when they begin to swell; they will then burst like a mealy potato—drain them immediately, and put them by till required to prepare for dinner. The best modes of dressing them are these: Put a lump of clarified fat or butter into the saucepan; when melted, dredge in about a third part of a table-spoonful of flour: when mixed, add a wine-glassful of water or broth, stir it till it boils, then add the beans (prepared as above), with some chopped parsley, some pepper and salt, and with or without a chopped shalot; cover the vessel, and shake it now and then over the fire till the beans are quite hot enough, and have had a couple of boils. They may be tossed up with any remains of cold gravy.

Boiled Carrots and Parsneps may be dressed as directed for kidney-beans, but must be cut down lengthways into thin bits about an inch and half long, and of the consistence of the green kidney-bean when prepared for boiling.

Onions.—Whether raw, roasted, or fried, onions are more or less unwholesome and indigestible. If after being fried in the usual manner, they are soddened or stewed in water or gravy until they are quite tender, they may be eaten without danger. The best way, however, to fry onions for eating, is to fry them in water. The onions, being cut in slices and rinsed, are put into the frying-pan, which is filled with water, and placed over a brisk fire; as the water evaporates, the frying-pan is re-filled, until the onions are tender; they should be seasoned whilst in the frying-pan, just as they are quite done, and will be as palatable to those fond of fried onions, as if dressed in the usual way.

Peas.—Split peas for peas-pudding should never be soaked before they are boiled, as is generally done, but merely washed and set on the fire in cold water. A pint

will require two hours' boiling in soft water, and then pulp with ease through a cullender.

Rice is not half enough used; it is both cheap and nourishing; with or without milk, it will make a good dish for breakfast, dinner, or supper, especially for children. One pound of rice, boiled in a bag until tender, will make four or five pounds of pudding*. If rice be soaked in milk or water four or five hours before it is used, it will require but a short time to boil, which will save fire and pains.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

Summer Cabbages and Bacon.—Cut a pound of bacon into bits an inch and half long and half an inch wide, put these into the saucepan with an onion, quartered, and let them fry together a minute or two, tossing and shaking the saucepan. Then put in the cabbages freshly washed, which will carry with them enough water to stew them. Let them simmer very slowly, keeping the saucepan closed. When nearly done, add any seasoning that may be necessary; and when tender enough to eat, add a lump of butter rolled in flour before you take them from the fire, and when it is properly mixed with the sauce, and has had a boil or two, the cabbage and bacon are ready.

ESSAY ON COTTAGE GARDENING.

BY JAMES BRADY.

As the following essay, which is taken from the *Gardeners' Gazette*, shows great knowledge of the subject, we have much pleasure in giving it insertion, premising only that it relates to vegetables alone; whereas we think it always desirable that allotment tenants should be encouraged to grow corn as well as vegetables.

"In the following short essay, founded on experience and observation, I would simply propose the subjoined plan:—

* With a little treacle, or even a little grated cheese and salt, it is good, and makes a variety.

"First—To show how one rood of ground may be most profitably cropped as a garden.

"Second—How another rood of ground may be managed, so as to produce (along with the refuse of the garden) sufficient material to feed a cow.

"To produce two crops annually out of the same ground, in rotation, let the garden if possible, be in a south aspect, enclosed by a paling or hedge, and previously prepared for cropping, by draining, trenching, &c., and ready to commence with by the 1st of October. Let the figure be a square, or an oblong, containing one rood, to be divided into eight plots, or beds, of five perches each, as under:—

GARDEN OF ONE ROOD.

1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5

"System of cropping bed No. 1.—First crop—Early dwarf York cabbage, planted in October, and off in May; also brown Dutch lettuce, interlined between the cabbage in October, and off in February and March.

"Second crop—Potatoes, planted in May, and ripe in October.

"No 2.—First crop—Early Mazagan beans, planted in November, and off in June.

"Second crop—Potatoes interlined in May, and off in November.

"No. 3.—First crop—Large York cabbage, planted in February, and off in June.

"Second crop—Dutch cabbage, planted in June, and off in November.

"No 4.—First crop—Early onions, transplanted in February, and ripe in June.

"Second crop—Drumhead or Dutch cabbage, planted in July, and off in December.

"No. 5.—First crop—Long pod beans, planted in March, and off in August.

"Second crop—Savoy cabbage and celery, interlined in June, and off in February; coss lettuce may also be interlined between the celery in June, and off in August.

"No. 6.—First crop—Early potatoes, planted in March, and off in the latter end of July.

"Second crop—Savoy cabbage, interlined in the beginning of July, and off in March.

"No. 7.—First crop—Onions, parsnips, carrots, (as a general crop).

"Second crop—Turnips, salads, &c., in succession, and small seeds.

"No. 8.—First crop—Large York cabbage, planted in April, and off in August.

"Second crop—Turnips and leeks interlined in July; they will be fit for use in the spring.

"By proper management, the labour requisite for this system of cropping may be accomplished by the cottager during the long evenings of summer, without infringing on the avocations of the day. In the winter, a day must be sacrificed now and again.

"*Interlining Crops.*—By interlining is meant, when the early or first crop is ripe, and not sufficient consumption for it, or cannot be disposed of to advantage, in time to have the ground prepared for a second crop; in such cases, the second crop may be planted in the intermediate space between the lines of the first. Thus the early or first crop is brought forward, for a month or five weeks, without the least injury to either.

"*Seeds.*—Early York, Savoy, and Dutch cabbage seeds, which are sown in March, the plants may be transplanted in May; York and Savoy seeds, sown in May, may be transplanted in July; York cabbage seeds, sown in July, may be planted in October, and York Savoy; and Dutch cabbage seeds, sown in August, may

be planted at any time from the beginning of February, until May. When the leaves on the young plants are the breadth of half a crown or so, let them be thinned out and put into a nursery bed; this not only affords more space to the weaker plants, but checks the too vigorous growth of the stronger plants, and prevents them from starting. In final transplanting, it is a good plan to make a puddle of fresh cowdung to dip the roots into. Celery seed may be sown in February; the plants thinned and pricked out in April; and finally transplanted in June. When the ground is prepared for final transplanting of cabbage, the best way to manage is to have drills opened with a common drawing hoe, about four inches deep. In these lines let the plants be carefully put in with a dibber. The reason for planting them in the deep lines or drills is, that the plants are partially shaded from the hot sun in summer, and sheltered from the cold blasts in winter; besides, cabbage planted in this way needs no second moulding. In gathering the crops, particularly the earlier ones, when interlining is not necessary, and more especially the cabbage tribe, the best way is to begin at one end of the plot, and when a few lines are gathered, that part of the ground to be dug up, and the second crop so far commenced being put in; and so on until the first crop is entirely cleared away. By the time the last part of the first is away, the last part of the second, or last crop, will have been planted, and the first part of it almost ripe. This method is much better than cutting here and there, &c. In all cases, I would recommend, as soon as the late crop is cleared away, to have the ground trenched, or laid up in ridges with the spade, so that as large a surface of it as possible may be exposed to the action of the weather.

"*Early Onions.*—Let the seeds be sown about the middle of August; about three square yards of ground will be sufficient, and about a quarter of an ounce of seed. The plants are to remain in the seed-bed until

the middle of February, when they are to be transplanted in the following manner:—Let the ground be dug on the same day the young onions are to be planted. When the ground is ready, open drills, six inches apart and three inches deep; let the plants be carefully taken from the seed-bed, and laid into the drills, at about four inches asunder. Let each drill, as it is planted, be neatly covered in with the back of a garden rake, and the soil about the roots carefully settled with a little water. About the middle of May some of them will start, that is, show their flower-stem. As soon as this appears, let it be pinched off. Let them be well supplied with water in dry weather, and the bulbs will swell to a great size. By the latter end of June they will be ripe. Onions grown in this way will be ripe six weeks earlier than the onions of the spring sowing, and grow to a much larger size. The globe and Tripoli varieties are the best for early sowing.

"*Management of Leeks.*—Let the seeds be sown in March; in July let them be transplanted in drills, at six inches apart and six inches deep; let there be four inches from plant to plant in the rows. Let them remain so until spring, and they will grow to a large size. Gooseberry quicks may be planted round the borders, at four feet distance from the edge of the walks, and six feet asunder. They can be trained perpendicularly in a conical form to any convenient height, from four to eight feet, from one stem below; by training them in this way, they occupy but little surface, and produce the most abundant crop; and by watering them occasionally with liquid manure, they will, at the end of three years, yield from two to four gallons of gooseberries each. Strawberries may be planted, as edgings, along the walk, at about one foot from plant to plant. Let them be well watered in dry weather, until the fruit begins to colour, and no longer. The runners should be carefully cut away as they appear, and they will bear abundantly. They will require to be renewed every fourth year. It

is a good time to plant strawberry plants in September as they will produce a crop the succeeding year.

"*Rotation of Cropping.*—On the rotation of cropping I would remark, that the same kind of crops which are in No. 1 the first year ought to be in No. 2 the second year, and in No. 3 the third year; and the same kind of crops that are in No. 8 the first year, ought to be in No. 1 the second, and in No. 2 the third year; and so on through the several divisions."

COW-KEEPING.

The value of a milch cow varies from eight pounds, or less, to double or even nearly triple that sum, according as she may be in calf, or be going out of milk, or *yell*, as it is termed in the north.

The sum to be given for a cow accordingly becomes a serious matter for most cottagers, and altogether out of the reach of many. An ingenious mode of getting over the difficulty thus presented has been communicated by J. S. Menteath, Esq., of Closeburn Hall.

"How Labourers may be enabled to Purchase a Cow.

"With this view it is proposed to encourage the forming of societies among labourers for the purchase of cows.

"That each labourer should be required, weekly or monthly, to contribute some small sum for that purpose.

"That each in his turn should have a cow bought for him at the expense of the common fund of the society.

"That the land-owners in the parish be prevailed on to aid, by adding their subscriptions to this Cow Society fund.

"On a somewhat similar principle, societies are instituted in the district of Skipton, of Craven, in Yorkshire, among the manufacturers, to build good cottages for the members of these building societies."

Qualities of Cows.—Of the numerous sorts of cows

the best for a cottager is one of moderate size, between two and a half and seven years old.

The most material points to distinguish a good milker is the skin, which should be thin, and feel rather loose than bound to the flesh; and the udder, or *stock*, which should be broad, square, and stretched forwards, so as to be seen before as well as behind the legs. It should neither be fleshy nor flabby, loose nor low hung. The milk veins ought to be large and prominent, and the teats pointing outwards, and not too near each other.

The other points are, a broad capacious chest, with a very small dewlap, or loose skin, in front; the back straight, wide, and deep over the hips; the belly neither lank nor bulged; the legs short, the neck slender, and the head and horns small.

It may not always be possible to select a cow with all these qualities, but the nearer one can be got to them the better.

Alderney cows, so much prized by some, are not profitable, for though they yield very rich milk, it is small in quantity, and they agree ill with wet and cold.

SHELTERING OF COWS.—As cows will fall off in their milk if exposed to wet or cold, it will be important to keep them a good deal in the shed, stable, or byre, which ought to be dry, clean, warm, and well ventilated, but free from any current of air where the cow stands.

Pasturing is important for air and exercise when it is to be attained; but it would be well to keep the cows in when the weather is very wet and cold, and always, except in warm summer weather, at night. The cows on the continent are chiefly fed in-doors, and are rarely pastured, except by tethering, on the edge of a clover field, or the like.

Cleanliness is indispensable to health, and a cow kept in-doors being very liable to befoul herself, she ought to be as carefully curried and groomed as a saddle-horse.

Mr. Harley, of Glasgow, established a dairy of one

hundred cows and upwards in one large cow-house, the floor of which was kept regularly white-washed, and the cows as clean and sleek as a lady's lap-dog; and though they never got out of doors, they were as healthy as any cows at pasture. The cottager ought, as far as in his power, to emulate similar cleanliness as to his cow.

FEEDING OF COWS.—When a cow is fed in-doors, it will be unprofitable to stint the quantity; and though some will not require more than about seventy pounds of green food in twenty-four hours, it has been reckoned by Mr. Wimpey, of Bath, that a cow will consume two bushels and a half of potatoes a week, which is one hundred and thirty bushels a year, or the produce of about half an acre. A cow will not of course be fed with potatoes all the year, and even with them it must have a proportion of hay; but this will give some idea of the quantity of food. Potatoes are reckoned by some to impoverish the milk, but this can only happen when the potatoes are of bad quality, or when given unboiled. Raw potatoes are good for no animal.

Brewers' or distillers' grains, again, if given in any great quantity, are too stimulating and forcing. Common turnips and common cabbages give the milk and butter a bad flavour—but this is alleged not to be the case with Swedish turnips and early York cabbages.—*Hand-book of Allotment Agriculture.*

STALL-FEEDING.—This system has long been practised in Switzerland, in many parts of Scotland, and has latterly been gaining ground in this country; and our own experience of its great advantages is so satisfactory, that we willingly assist in giving publicity to the plan. An open shed, roomy, shaded, and airy, should receive the animal in summer, and a warm stable ought to be her dwelling in winter. Food to be given four times a day, the quantity regulated by watching her appetite, so that she be not allowed to leave. It is a good plan to rub down a cow every morning, as the friction induces a

healthy action of the skin, and preserves cleanliness. The udder, as well as the hands of the milker, should be washed with soap and water before milking. We have tried all kinds of keep, and have long found that lucerne is the best summer food; and hay and carrots for the winter. Half an acre of meadow pasture, the produce to be made into hay (with the second crop to be mowed alternately with lucerne, and given green), with another quarter of an acre to be sown with lucerne, reserving a small portion of it for carrots, will, excepting in very untoward seasons, be found sufficient for a cow on the stall-feeding system; whereas, in ranging her pasture, three acres would have been required. Lucerne, if given fresh cut, will not only give an unpleasant flavour to the milk, but is liable to cause the same distress which a cow suffers after eating too much clover. Therefore the quantity required for the day's consumption should be cut every night and morning, and the cow should never eat it till it has lain twelve hours on the ground to wither.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

OBSERVATION.—This appears likely to obviate the chief objection which has been urged to "labourers' cows"—the alleged difficulty, and, in many cases, impossibility, of honestly obtaining sufficient keep. Much of the care of the cow, cutting food, milking, &c., might be done by the children of the family, and afford a good training for farm-servants, under the direction of a tidy, notable mother. Where it was desirable to establish a better supply of milk than may at present be attainable by the poor, would not this be within reach, with profit and comfort to all parties, if one or two labourers of the highest class could manage to keep cows as above, for the purpose of selling milk?—*Transcriber.*

METHOD OF KEEPING A COW ON A QUARTER OF AN ACRE OF LAND.

FOR a cottage, a cow of the smallest sort is to be pre-

ferred. Such a cow will not require above seventy or eighty pounds of moist food in the twenty-four hours. Suppose a cottager has forty rods of clean land clear of trees, dig it up deeply in the spring, or, which is still better, trench it, keeping the top spit of the soil at the top, lay it in ridges in April or May, about two feet apart, made high and sharp; when the weeds appear about three inches high, turn the ridges into the furrows, (never moving the ground except in dry weather), and bury all the weeds. Do this as often as the weeds get three inches high. About the 26th of August, but not earlier, prepare a rod of your ground, and put some manure in it; sow one-half with early York cabbage-seed, and the other half with sugar-loaf cabbage-seed, in little drills of eight inches apart, and the seeds thin in the drills. If the plants come up at two inches apart (they should be thinned if thicker), you will have a plenty. As soon as fairly out of the ground, hoe it nicely and deeply; again, in a few days, when the plants have six leaves, dig up, make fine, and manure another rod or two, and prick out four thousand of each in rows, at eight inches apart, and three inches in the row; hoe the ground between them often. Early in November, lay some manure on the remaining thirty rods between the ridges, and turn the ridges over on this manure; then transplant your plants on the ridges at fifteen inches apart; here they will stand the winter, and you must see that the slugs do not eat them; if any plants fail, you have plenty in the bed where you pricked them out, for your thirty-six rods will not require more than four thousand plants.

If the weather be very hard, you should not cover thirty-six rods, but you may the bed where the rest of the plants are. A little litter, straw, grass, or ferns, laid between the rows and the plants, not to cover the leaves, will preserve them completely; if the plants in the thirty-six rods fail in part, fill up their places later in the winter by those from the bed: if you find the ground dry at the top during the winter, hoe it, particularly near the plants,

and rout out all slugs and insects; in March, when the ground is dry, hoe deep, and earth the plants up close to the lower leaves; as soon as the plants begin to grow dig the ground with a spade deep and well; dig again in a month, and whenever weeds come up, let not one live a week. By the 1st of June, you will have turned cabbages, and the early Yorks will soon be solid.

By the 1st of June you will get a young cow, one that is about to calve, or has just calved; and at this time such a cow as you want will not cost more than 5*l*. The thirty-six rods, if the cabbages all stood till they were solid, will give her food for two hundred days, at eighty pounds a day, which is more than she would eat; but you must use some that are not solid, and some will split before you can use them; some of the sugar-loaves may have been planted out in the spring, and thus these thirty-six rods will bring you on till September. In March, and again in April, sow more early Yorks, and get them to be fine stout plants; dig up the ground, and manure it, and as fast as you cut cabbages, plant cabbages; your last planting will be about the middle of August, with stout plants, and these will serve you till November.

Now we have to provide from December till May out of this piece of ground. In November there must be arrived at perfection three thousand turnip-plants; these, without the greens, must weigh, on an average, five pounds; and this, at eighty pounds a day, will keep the cow eighty-seven days, and there are but one hundred and eighty-two days in these six months. The greens will have helped out the latest cabbages to carry you through November, and perhaps December; but for these six months you must depend only on Swedish turnips. And how are these to be procured from the same ground that bears the cabbages? That we are now going to see.

When you plant out your cabbages at the outset, put first a row of early Yorks, then a row of sugar-loaves, and so on, through the piece,—of course, as you are to use the

early Yorks first, you will cut every other row, and the early Yorks you are to plant in summer will go into the intervals. By-and-by the sugar-loaves are cut away, and in their places will come Swedish turnips; dig and manure the ground, as in the case of the cabbages, and at last you will find about sixteen rods, where you will have found it too late and unnecessary to plant any second crop of cabbage: here the Swedish turnips will stand in rows of about two feet apart, (and always a foot apart in the row,) and thus you will have three thousand turnips, and if they do not weigh five pounds each, the fault must be in the seed or the management. The Swedish turnips are raised in this manner: you will bear in mind the four rods of ground in which you have sowed and pricked out the cabbage-plants, the plants that will be left there will in April serve you for greens; in a part of these four rods you will, in March or April, as before directed, have sown and raised early Yorks for the summer planting. Now, in the last week of May, prepare a quarter of a rod of this ground, and sow it precisely as directed for the cabbage-seed with the Swedish turnip-seed, and sow a quarter of a rod every three days, till you have sowed two rods; if the fly appear, cover the rows over in the day-time with cabbage-leaves,—take the leaves off at night; hoe well between the plants; when they are safe from the fly, thin them to four inches apart in the row, and the two rods will give you nearly five thousand plants, which is two thousand more than you want; from this bed you draw your plants to transplant in the ground where the cabbages have stood; you should not transplant any before the middle of August: in the two rods where you take your turnip-plants you may leave plants to come to perfection, at two feet distance each way, and this will give you more than eight hundred and forty pounds weight of turnips; the other two rods will be ground enough to sow your cabbage-plants in it at the end of August, as directed for the last year. The turnip, to be good, should be got from a friend, or raise twelve fine

plants where the smell of no blossom of the turnips, rape, or charlock kind, can reach them, and the seed will keep for years. You may keep in winter ten bushels in a shed; put the rest in ten-bushel heaps, raised to a point, covered with a little straw or dead grass, three inches thick, and then six inches of earth, and a sod of earth on the crown of the heap.

The warmer the shed for the cow, the better, and paved with a little slope, with a broad trough fixed up to feed her, at least three times a day. A well-fed cow should be dry only fifteen days before calving; and the cow must be milked clean, as the last half-pint has twelve times as much cream as the first; and five quarts of milk a day may be expected.

CURRANTS.

CURRANTS being a very useful fruit for the table, as well as for tarts, preserving, &c., a hint may not be amiss to such as fail in cultivating them to that perfection which they are capable of being brought to by summer pruning. My method is this:—At the time they are about to set the fruit, I cut back, or pinch off all such shoots as are not likely to be wanted for next year's wood, to about two inches from the spurs whereon the bunches of fruit are formed, taking care not to pinch them off too close, in which case the young fruit would wither. By this simple means, the fruit, by receiving more light and air, as well as a greater portion of assistance from the tree, will swell to the greatest perfection. Should other superfluous branches shoot forth, when the fruit is in a more advanced state, they are removed in a similar way, remembering throughout the season to keep the bushes as clear as possible of unnecessary wood. The result of this mode of treatment gained me the first prize last year at the Cornwall Horticultural Show at Truro. I should imagine this mode of treatment will answer well for gooseberries; and I should like to know if the Lancashire growers pursue in any way a similar method to the above.—T. SIMONS.

DANISH GARDENING.

THE Danish gardeners cover the blossoms of their fruit-trees in the day-time, and leave them exposed to the open air at night. This keeps them back until the season is favourable; and hence they hardly ever lose their wall-fruit. They also raise in the winter-time cauliflowers in their cellars, so as to be ready early in spring.

DOMESTIC MANAGEMENT.

THE habits which are acquired when we are young are most difficult to be eradicated, even though we may have a sincere desire of exchanging them for better. Order, neatness, and cleanliness, should then be practised by the mother of a family, if it were for no other reason than by example to form her children to habits, which will be so essentially useful to them in after life. A mother, by enforcing on her daughters the necessity of industrious regularity, endows them with a property which will prove most valuable to them in their future destination. The woman whose time is her capital, and who does not waste it by negligence, forgetfulness, or irregularity in her work, may be considered to be twice as rich as she who has to run for everything and look for everything just at the moment it is required. If engaged as a household servant, how much is her value enhanced by habits which gain her the esteem and good-will of her employers, and by which she makes friends to herself through life!

Order and regularity, punctuality and cleanliness*, are then absolutely necessary in the management of a family. In no portion of domestic occupations are they more necessary than in the preparation of the daily meal of a household. The combination of these qualities in practice, constitutes *good management*. Let us exa-

* The cleanliness here recommended is very different from that spirit of bustle and confusion which is often witnessed in people, who, to use the words of a popular writer, "are always dirty under pretence of being always cleaning."

mine a little further into the good effects of this, and let us, for the sake of illustration, suppose that four married labourers, earning exactly the same money, are returning home for their daily meal. We will give these men names, that we may the better distinguish them from each other.

John, Thomas, James, and Robert, have just entered their respective houses. John's indolent wife sets before her hungry husband bread and cheese, or bread and butter, for his dinner, and he spends more money in satisfying his appetite on this comfortless fare, than if a savoury meal had been prepared for him, causing him to feel that he had indeed a home, and a wife busied for his comfort.

Thomas comes in ravenous from the field; he smells the fragrant mess preparing for him, and is impatient to partake of it, but the process is not yet completed; his tardy wife is now flushed and hurried with needless bustle, and he is obliged to wait amid noise and confusion. At length he snatches his portion, but in vain is the spoon lifted to his mouth; its scalding contents cannot be tasted until the heat is somewhat lessened. His hour is now elapsed, and he must back to his work—irritated, he seizes a crust, and execrates this want of punctuality as a crime.

The wife of James is a skilful cook, and no one can better produce from the ingredients a well-flavoured dish; but unfortunately she is a slattern. James is of decent and cleanly habits, and is annoyed at sitting down amid the litter with which the floor is strewed, while the savoury steam of the preparation in vain invites the appetite; the dirty hand which offers it, and the unclean vessel which contains it, cause him to turn with disgust, and take his dry bread in preference. Is there not a fear that these men, though well disposed, may resort to the alehouse for that comfort which they cannot find at home, and thus divert their earnings and affections from their families and their own domestic hearths?

Robert finds his meal ready prepared for him, his wife neatly and cleanly dressed, at leisure to sit with him, and their children round the social board, on which is placed their homely dinner of good, nourishing, and pleasant food, accompanied, it may be, by a mug of his own home-brewed beer, and a slice of his own home-made loaf; and yet, with all these comforts around him, having a happy home—"a home which he loves," he will spend less of his earnings on his mere living than any of his three neighbours.

It is matter of surprise how Robert's wife finds time for all she does; she never seems hurried; she has always a minute to spare; and yet she performs more than double the work accomplished by any of her neighbours. They say she must have some kind genius presiding over her household. Yes, she has a kind genius, and this is, *good management*, which causes Robert, with the same amount of money, to be, in fact, a richer, as well as a happier man than either of his fellow-labourers. It need not, however, shed its influence over *his* dwelling alone—it may, in a degree, be obtained by all who will take a little trouble for its acquirement; the humblest situation—the most untaught intellect—are not excluded from its advantages.—*Working Man's Companion.*

To those who take an interest in schools, and generally in the training of children and young people, I would suggest the idea of introducing a sort of exercise in domestic economy, and of affording every facility and encouragement for its practice. In my intercourse with the labouring classes, what I have observed they seem most to want to learn is, to market and make purchases on the most advantageous terms; to apply the art of cookery to preparing food in an economical, wholesome, and palatable manner; in the country, to brew and bake; to light a fire expeditiously and economically *; to

* The best and quickest mode of restoring a neglected fire is to stir out the ashes, and with the tongs to fill up the spaces between the bars with cinders. If carefully done, it is surprising how soon this process will produce an effective and glowing fire.—(*The Original.*)

keep up a fire economically; to make a fire expeditiously; to set out a table neatly and quickly; to clear away expeditiously; to cut out, make, and mend linen, and to keep other clothes in good order; to wash and get up linen; to dry and clean shoes; to sweep and clean rooms quietly and expeditiously, and to keep them neat and comfortable; and, lastly, to prepare proper food for children and the sick. The difference in the way of doing these things is immense, and the difference in point of comfort corresponding. The management of a fire is of great importance, and quietness and quickness are essential to comfort. Some women conduct their household concerns with a noise and confusion that are quite distracting.—*The Original.*

DRUNKENNESS.

Its Consequences to Individual Character.—1. Destruction of health; disease in every form and shape; premature decrepitude in the old; stunted growth, and general debility and decay in the young; loss of life by paroxysms, apoplexies, drownings, burnings, and accidents of various kinds; *delirium tremens*—one of the most awful afflictions of humanity; paralysis, idiotcy, madness, and violent death.—2. Destruction of mental capacity and vigour; and extinction of aptitude for learning, as well as of disposition for practising any useful art or industrious occupation.—3. Irritation of all the worst passions of the heart; hatred, anger, revenge; with a brutalization of disposition that breaks asunder and destroys the most endearing bonds of nature and society.—4. Extinction of all moral and religious principle; disregard of truth, indifference to education, violation of chastity, insensibility to shame, and indescribable degradation.

Let any man consider in his own mind, candidly, how much, in different parts of his life, he has spent in liquor, and see whether, if that had been laid by in a savings-

bank, where he would besides have received interest for it, he would not have been in possession of a comfortable sum. The health, too, wasted at the beer-shop is of the utmost importance to the poor man. How many middle-aged men are old and infirm from drinking! and how many shorten their lives from the same cause! And is not this a crime equal to self-murder of any other kind? besides the power to work which is thus lost, perhaps for many years, to a poor man's wife and family.

EMPLOYMENT OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

With the view of relieving the pressure of the New Poor Law on partially able-bodied labourers, some benevolent individuals in the parish of Titchfield, Hants, conceiving that great benefit might be derived from the cultivation of unproductive lands as a means of employment, resolved on giving the experiment a trial, which appears to have been attended with the following result:—"It was agreed that some waste land should be rented, and brought into cultivation under the direction of a committee: the rate of wages to be fixed by them. A subscription was entered into to furnish the funds; and though objections were made at first to the plan by some individuals, they were soon done away, for at the end of the first year 114*l.* 13*s.* was raised. The land, with a part of this capital, was brought into cultivation, manured, and cropped; and the following extract from the first year's report will show with what success:—'There has been expended on the rent and culture of eight acres and thirty-one perches 107*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, and 109*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* has been received for the crop; thus, notwithstanding all the disadvantage of an indifferent and hitherto uncultivated soil, an actual profit was raised on the first year's outlay. Nor was the issue of their efforts during the second year less encouraging to the committee, for they reported to the meeting in Nov. 1838, that 157*l.* 13*s.* o

had been expended on the land, and 167*l.* 1*s.* 1½*d.* had been returned to them by its produce. Four acres of waste land have been cultivated this year, not only without loss, but with a considerable profit—9*l.* 7*s.* 4½*d.* The third year has by no means disappointed their hopes, and although the weather has not been very favourable for the potato crop, yet by a still greater profit than in either of the former years they are led to infer both the utility and soundness of their plan.' The subjoined is an extract from the committee's report in Dec., 1839: —'This year the actual profits amount to 12*l.* 1*s.*, 9½*d.*, while the gross produce of the land now cultivated is 205*l.* 19*s.* 5½*d.* The objects contemplated by the society are fully effected. Every man of good character, upon application, has been employed. Twenty-six men, and two women with their families, have been employed on fifteen acres of land this year, and a produce of 206*l.* has been realized on a tract of land which four years ago yielded no return to the proprietor.' If the original subscriptions were divided there would be a considerable bonus to each member, and it is therefore clearly shown what may with good management be effected towards employing deserving labourers, and enabling them to support themselves without parochial aid or loss to any individual."—*Salisbury Herald.*

EMPLOYMENT OF THE POOR.

MR. DENTON, of Rushbrooke Park Farm, proposes that the females and children of the poor should be employed during the winter in cutting off the ears and leaves of the corn stalks, and preparing the straw for thatching. There are many advantages to the agriculturists in this arrangement. The corn is more easily thrashed, the straw is unbruised,—a thatch lasts three times longer than when laid with broken straw—and the wife and children of the labourer can, at an easy occupation, earn about three shillings a week—a most com-

fortable addition to the poor man's small pittance.—*Bury Herald.*

THE TRULY ESTIMABLE CHARACTER.

As the earth is fruitful in plants and flowers, but its riches are in mines of precious metals, and the veins of marble hidden in its bosom, so the real worth of a character is unseen by the world. The brotherly conduct by which society is profited, or the pangs of sorrow as much as possible alleviated, may be recognized and admired; but the springs are invisible. The actings of the heart in desires to imitate its benevolent Heavenly Father, and emanating from faith, which is the gift of no mortal power, but will be bestowed on those who ask it, and patient endurance of evil, are hidden from all eyes but those of God. Causes such as these the irreligious cannot understand; they are strangers to such Christian experience. They are, however, God's delight, and at the great day of account, the Saviour will be found openly avowing his own disciples and followers.

EVILS OF IGNORANCE, AND THE MEANS OF REMOVING THEM.

"The fundamental cause of the greatest evils of the poor is ignorance. Ignorance, however, is not the mere incapacity to read or write. Experience often teaches us that these acquirements, however desirable, are by no means indispensable; and though they are wanting, there may be much intellect, a quick sense of the ways and means of individual advantage, and accurate knowledge of moral good and evil. The ignorance arising from the want of intercourse with minds superior to their own, possessed of wider information, and having therefore different views of interest and duty; this together with the scantiness of religious knowledge, is the ignorance which most generally and most hurtfully besets the lower classes.

"The improvements in education have brought the first rudiments of learning within the reach of the poorest rank. And they have done more; for it is one of the principal advantages of the Madras system, that it sharpens the faculties and exercises the minds of those subject to it so successfully as to render them comparatively different beings from the scholars of a former age.

"An indefinite capability of improvement opens before us when the human mind is thus put in motion. But that the soil may give all its produce, the skill of the agriculturist must be superadded to the labour of the peasant. A right direction, as well as a stimulus, must be applied to the mind by the superintendence and occasional intercourse of the superior ranks. Where this intercourse is not wanting to obviate any mischief which the system of competition might introduce, and counteract wrong impressions; when the good seed of religion is sown upon the soil prepared by education, to remind the growing generation that the object of the care bestowed upon them is not to raise them above their allotted condition, but to fit them for performing more adequately their duties both to God and man; then we have a prospect of general improvement, not chimerical and visionary, but approved by judgment and realized by experience."

He who brings a principle to his work higher than that of immediate interest makes his habitual employment an exercise of practical religion.

"Of all obstacles to improvement, ignorance is the most formidable, because the only true secret of assisting the poor is to make them agents in bettering their own condition, and to supply them, not with a temporary stimulus, but with a permanent energy. As fast as the standard of intelligence is raised, the poor become more and more able to co-operate in any plan proposed [illegible] their advantage, more likely to listen to any reason-suggestion, more able to understand, and therefore willing to pursue it.

"Hence it follows, that when gross ignorance is once removed, and right principles are introduced, a great advantage has been already gained against squalid poverty." It is of great importance "to interweave with all the information acquired by the children the most valuable of all information, (next to religion,) a sense of their situation in life, and its practical duties of subordination, content, and industry. The advantages of little savings, the importance which the smallest sums acquire by accumulation, may be practically taught, by a trifling weekly contribution, to be employed at the end of the year in clothing, or any other desirable object. If the child saves pence, the man will save shillings, supposing only that the same pains are taken to make him understand the advantages of so doing, and the same facilities placed in his way."—*Records of Creation*, by J. B. Sumner, M.A. (now bishop of Chester.)

FEATHERS.

INSTEAD of the cruel custom of plucking geese for the feathers, it is advised, when they are in full feather, to cut the feathers, off close with sharp scissors. The produce would be little reduced in quantity, and much improved in quality, the health of the birds remain uninjured, and the new feathers benefited.

TO CLEAN FEATHERS OF THEIR OIL.—MIX a pound of quick-lime to each gallon of clean water, and when the undissolved lime settles in fine powder, pour off the water for use; put the feathers in a tub, pour the clear lime water upon them, stir them well, and let them remain three or four days in the water, which should then be drained from them by laying them on a sieve; wash them in clean water, dry them on fine nets, and then beat them to get rid of the dust, and fit them for use. To restore the spring of damaged feathers, it is only necessary to dip them in water for a short time.

FIRES.

To the labouring classes, a good fire at meals is the greatest source of health and enjoyment; and at public-houses, a cheerful blaze seen through the windows is a bait well understood to catch the labourer returning from his work to a comfortless home.—(*The Original.*)

FIRES FROM ACCIDENT.—In a statement taken from the *Mechanics' Magazine*, on the subject of accidents by fire, it appears, that sixty-nine cases of these, during the last year, arose from defective or foul chimneys. We see here, then, the importance of having the chimneys swept in good time. It is too common to delay this necessary piece of management till the chimney is so foul as to make it both disagreeable and dangerous to light a fire. We hope soon to see the operation of sweeping a chimney much more simple than it is, so that it will not be necessary to have a race of boys trained to the dangerous occupation of climbing chimneys, and to all the distressing circumstances connected with that trade. The new machines seem to answer their intended purpose, and are now much in use, although there are some chimneys so constructed as to require the help of climbing boys. This will probably be avoided in newly-built houses. A great deal of mischief, however, might be prevented by common every-day care, simply by thrusting a common sweeping-brush up the chimney every morning before the fire is lighted. The soot begins to collect at the *bottom* of the chimney. This makes a ledge for more to rest on, so that it thickens every day: and this being so near to the grate, is liable to take fire, whenever the fire in the grate is larger than usual. If this soot were swept away, before it collected to a large quantity, the chimney would require comparatively little sweeping; and much risk would be avoided. To prove whether there be this danger or not, let any one who reads these remarks, take a brush and put it as far as he can up the chimney; and we will venture to say

that, in two instances out of three, he will find that there is enough of soot within his reach to shew him that there is danger, and to account for so many accidents from foul chimneys.—*Cottager's Monthly Visitor.*

ON MAKING AND MENDING A FIRE.—The best way to light a fire is to clear the ashes from the grate, leaving a few cinders for a foundation—put in a piece of crumpled brown paper, quite dry—on this lay a few small sticks across one another, then some of a larger size—on these place a few pieces of coal, about the size of an egg—then the large cinders, and in about five minutes, that is, when the flames have fairly caught the coal, add the backing, consisting of more small coal and cinders. The bellows should never be used.

When the fire has become low, stir it together; never turn the large cinders: admit air by clearing the front of the lower bar, and pass the poker into the bottom of the fire, to allow some of the ashes to escape,—then with the tongs, place a very few pieces on the top, towards the front, avoiding to rest any flat sides of these pieces against the upper bar, as they would cause any grate to smoke. Never throw on coals; but, with a shovel, proceed to sprinkle a few small coals over the whole of the top (the front pieces preventing their falling through the bars); then throw up *all* that is beneath the grate, including the smallest ashes—and finally add another quantity of small coal over the whole.—*Compressed from the Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

FIRESIDE ENJOYMENTS.

THE dark, wet, and wintry days, and the long dismal nights of winter, are favourable to fireside enjoyments and occupations. In large farm-houses, many useful avocations may enliven the evening fireside. In some districts, the men mend their own clothes and shoes; in others, various repairs of smaller implements, as flails, sieves, &c., are done; and it is now become a laud-

custom, in many superior farms, to encourage reading and other means of mental improvement, which the continual engagements of a rural labourer prevent during the summer. The encouraging of this is highly to be desired; no part of our working population having been so lamentably deficient in common knowledge as that of farmers' servants. Through the summer they have toiled from morning till night, and from day to day incessantly; and their only intervals of rest, Sundays and winter nights, have been lost in drowsiness. The cottager may usefully, by his winter fire, construct bee-hives, nets, mole-traps, bird-cages, &c.

FLEMISH HUSBANDRY.

The sagacious agriculturists of Flanders confined themselves to small allotments which did not exceed their means. These admirable cultivators not only added gradually to the extent of the soil which they tilled; every year the plough was made to go deeper; half an inch or an inch was thus gradually added to the depth of the land already in tillage; hence a fertile wam, eighteen inches or two feet deep, is now seen where the farmer originally found a soil not exceeding three or four inches in depth. "To do a little constantly, and to do that little well," has been the profitable maxim of the Fleming; by acting steadily on that invaluable principle, this industrious race have converted the most barren tract in Europe into the most productive land in the world.—*Quarterly Review.*

FRIENDLY ADVICE TO COTTAGERS.

It is incredible how much poor people would gain by saving a little money before they marry. Many of them know how much better it is to get coals in the summer, and by the chaldron or half chaldron, for you always gain something by getting a quantity, and buying them at the cheapest time of the year; but this they cannot do, because they have not money in hand. With the assistance of a savings' bank, a young man and woman

may, by a few years of *steady* labour and industry, save a comfortable sum of money; and surely they will be repaid by the comfort and happiness they may look forward to enjoy in their old age, if they wait with patience for a few years. But the great evil with young women now is, that though, if they go to service, they have the advantage of board, as well as wages, they frequently spend all their money on dress; sometimes from the fear of being laughed at, and, at others, from thinking it makes them look more respectable; but they little know how much they are mistaken. There are *many* people who would on no account think of taking a fine-dressing servant; and they may depend upon gaining more respect, if they dress conformably to their situation.

A young man, when single, will earn as much as when he has a family, and perhaps more, because, when he comes home from work, he should find some way of earning money, such as making bee-hives, baskets, rush-candles, straw hats, &c.; in hay and harvest time, too, he will make more money than in winter. I will reckon his weekly earnings at 12*s.*, though they will probably be more, taking one week with another; at the end of the year, he will have gained 31*l.* 4*s* : of this he should not spend more than 18*l.* 4*s.*, that is, 7*s.* per week; or what will he do with a wife and family to maintain? He will have saved 5*s.* each week, and if you look at the table of the savings' bank, you will find that 5*s.* put into the savings' bank every week will amount, in five years, to 70*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.*

His first object should be to take a comfortable cottage in good repair, with neat and strong furniture; an oven if possible, and a good sized fire-place. If he can get half an acre of ground it will be a very great advantage to him, because, if he leaves half of it for a cow, on the other half he may have a cow-shed, a shed for fuel, and a pig-sty, besides the vegetables he will want for his family, which will enable him to have a hot dinner

every day, at much less expense than if he had everything to buy. He should lay in wood for fuel, and if he has room for a chaldron of coals, he should buy them, because then he may take a quarter of a chaldron of the smallest coals, and make one chaldron of cheap fuel, and this, with the remaining three-quarters of a chaldron of coals, and some wood to light the fire with and heat the oven, will be a comfortable store for the winter; and though it seems a great expense, is not really so much as buying fuel by the week in the winter, which is the dearest part of the year for fuel. If he finds he has too much, he will always be able to sell it to some of his neighbours.

He might also buy a cow and a pig, and lay in a stock of whatever he thinks most useful for his family, and which will keep well, such as wheat and rye flour, barley-meal, &c.; and if his cottage is large enough for him to brew in, he will have money to purchase brewing utensils, malt and hops; but he should make a point of leaving ten guineas at least in the savings' bank, which will be a comfortable store, in case of sickness, or any other distress.

They will then begin and may go on comfortably, provided the husband is industrious and hard working, and the wife a good manager, and one who spends her time at home, instead of gossiping with her neighbours: they will find it a good way to make a few plain rules, and determine to keep them, one of which should be, *never go to bed in debt*, if it is but a few pence; and another, *to lay by their week's rent every Saturday night*, (in a savings' bank, if possible.) A man who gets a habit of running into debt must always be a poor man; he adds every week to his bill, and never has a farthing he can call his own. A savings' bank seems as if it must be a great help to a poor man; but unfortunately there are very few who use it.

they are without a family, or with only one or
n, they should save every week, particularly

if they have a store of rice, &c.; in that case, their weekly expenses should be very trifling. The wife should take in work, washing or baking, and earn as much as she can: for, when she has a family, she can do but little, and the wages of a labourer do not increase with his family.

One great advantage in keeping a cow, pig, and chickens, and brewing and baking at home, is this, that the girls learn to milk, make butter, cure bacon, brew, bake, and many other things, which, when they go to service, will make them deserving of higher wages.

The children will all learn to manage a garden, and, when the boys are big enough, the ground should be dug and planted by them.

In baking, making butter, &c., the greatest cleanliness is necessary, particularly if it is done for other people, or to sell; and this is an excellent thing to accustom a girl to, for few people like a servant who has not a clean, tidy way of doing things, particularly for food.

Home-brewed beer is the cheapest drink, except milk, which a family can use: a labourer may brew as good beer as he can get at a public-house, for exactly a quarter of what he can buy it there. It seems extraordinary that so few people brew their own beer; this may proceed from the price of the utensils: but if a man has saved money enough to pay for them, or can save enough, he will soon find himself paid by brewing at home. It would very much lessen the expense, if two or three poor families were to buy a set between them, and brew together.

Tea is more unwholesome and expensive than anything else used by the poor: every animal will show the wholesomeness of malt in comparison with tea. If a pig lived on malt, he would be fat in a short time; but he would die in less than a week, if he were fed on tea.

By baking at home, a great deal may be saved: no woman, who has had the comfort of baking at home, will bear the expense of bakers' bread; and, where there

is no oven, they will find it answer to make the bread at home, and have it baked at the baker's; there is no part in brewing or baking that cannot, and ought not, to be done by a woman alone.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES

MR. TIDD PRATT, the barrister appointed by Government to certify the rules and regulations of friendly societies, has published instructions for the formation of friendly societies, savings' banks, government annuity societies, and loan societies, with forms of rules and tables applicable thereto. This constitutes a very useful, and even necessary work for all such societies, and ought to be studied by all who desire to form them. Being printed at the public expense, it is very properly given away, and any individual may be supplied with a copy, free of expense, on application to Mr. Pratt.—*Morning Post.*

FROST.

TO REMOVE FROST FROM VEGETABLES.—Vegetables intended for the use of the table should be placed in cold water for several hours previous to their being dressed, and allowed to thaw gradually. By observing this plan you may get the frost out of turnips or carrots intended for immediate use. Place the tub of cold water in a warm kitchen.

FRUGALITY.

WE cannot but observe that the blessing of God is generally seen to rest on those who are diligent, thrifty, and frugal; we are quite sure it never rests on indolence and extravagance. Every day shows the general truth of the following maxims:—

"Waste not; want not.'

"Wilful waste makes woful want."

"Waste a crumb, and you are likely to want a loaf. Under a penny, and you are likely to want a pound."

"Beware of small expenses and small imprudences: a small leak may sink a great ship."

"The rich should not suffer the waste of their property, while there are poor in want of it; and while they know not but that they or their families may one day want it themselves.

The following remark I copied from a sermon on frugality:—

"When the Son of God was on earth, and went about scattering blessings; when with a word he multiplied five barley loaves and two small fishes to feed many thousand persons, he could in the same manner have provided another meal whenever the need of his followers required it; but, instead of that, he commanded them to gather up the fragments, that nothing might be lost; thus teaching us to regard frugality as a Christian virtue."—*Family Book.*

Teach but a child to put part of his first little earnings in the bank, and, in all probability, poverty will not overtake him to the end of his life. Teach one child to save, and others will follow the example, till industry and frugality become as common as vice and misery are now. If a boy of 12 years of age can lay by 3*d.* a week, till he is 14, then 6*d.* a week till he is 16, and then 1*s.* a week till he is 18, by which time he may be supposed to have learnt his business, he will have in the bank, adding the interest of his money, 10*l.*, besides having acquired habits of industry and carefulness.

ECONOMICAL FUEL.

In those parts where coal is scarce and dear, and in all cases where the saving of fuel is an object the following will be found not only a cheap, but an exceedingly comfortable and pleasant mode of getting up a good fire:—Take a quantity of clay, and roll or beat it very thin into squares of about two or three feet, and less than half an inch in thickness. Smear the surface all over with pitch or tar; on this scatter a mixture, of eq-

parts, of slack and cinders about half an inch thick and well moistened; roll it up exactly after the manner of a rolled dumpling, smearing the clay with pitch or tar as you proceed, until the whole is finished; cut it into small lumps with a spade or large knife, and it will be ready for use. The pitch may be regulated in quantity according to the wish of the person using the fuel, and may be altogether left out when a good blaze and a quick fire are not wanted. It is advisable, however, to cover the inner surface. Great care must be taken to roll the clay very thin, to prevent having too much of it, and producing a dull fire. The above preparation will be found greatly superior to the old clay balls.—*Globe.*

A SUBSTITUTE FOR COALS.—Take one bushel of small coal, one bushel of saw-dust, two bushels of sand, and one bushel of clay; mix them together with water, like common mortar; then make them into balls, or into the shape of a brick, with a mould, and place them in a dry place to harden and dry for use. You cannot light a fire with them, but when your fire is quite a-light and burns strong, put them on a little above the top bar, and the fire will not want more fuel or stirring for several hours; and they will keep up a stronger heat than coals only.—*The Cottager's Monthly Visitor.*

GAMBLING.

LET every man avoid all sorts of gambling as he would poison. A poor man or boy should not allow himself even to toss up for a halfpenny; for this is often the beginning of a habit of gambling; and this ruinous crime comes on by slow degrees. Whilst a man is minding his work he is playing the best game, and he is sure to win. A gambler never makes any good use of his money, even if he should win. He only gambles the more, and he is often reduced to beggary and despair: he is often tempted to commit crimes for which his life is forfeited to his country; or perhaps he puts an end to himself to his miserable existence. If a gambler loses,

he injures himself; if he wins, he injures a companion or a friend. And could any honest man enjoy money gained in such a way?—*Ten Minutes' Advice to Labourers.*

GARDEN.

ALMOST all cottagers have now a quarter of an acre of garden-land, or more, besides that annexed to their houses. The time to cultivate these to advantage is in the evening, after the day's work is over; for staying away a day or two in the week from regular employ, and thus losing wages to work in the garden, can never answer. All the children of a family, too, can be employed occasionally in the cottage garden; and, if judiciously cultivated, all this labour is far from being misemployed; for I have heard it said by a labourer, who had several children to assist him, that, without interfering with his usual work, his garden, of a quarter of an acre, had in one year brought him a profit of six pounds over the rent. A garden will afford the means of honestly keeping a pig, the cottager's greatest luxury —I say, honestly, for I am certain that the bacon that has been obtained by stealing food for the pig, which is sometimes the case, can never be eaten with any satisfaction by those who have the slightest feeling of fear or love towards God. The hours thus redeemed from the beer-shop may also, and ever should, be made a blessing to the cottager and his family, by prayer, and reading the word of God; surely the half hour so employed will be blessed on the labours of the whole ensuing day; and can that time be deemed wasted which will make the labouring man's sleep sweet, as it will be the means of enabling him to lay down at rest with his family, his neighbour, and himself; and will assuredly shed the blessing of contentment—that blessing which the Bible assures us is "great gain" throughout his day. I will give one instance out of several I have known, where the last half hour in the day was thus spent, and it was returned in the blessing of a contented and p

heart to the whole family, which shone forth in their faces, though they were among the very poorest. There were several sons in this family, the three elder of whom were out at work. They had a hard master, who often kept them out till nine and ten at night; but never would their father allow them to go to rest, till they had studied the word of God. They always read two chapters, each of the family reading a verse in turn; the boys then repeated part of the catechism, or some hymns which they had learnt at the Sunday-school; and their evening service concluded by the father's offering up to the throne of grace several prayers from the prayer-book, which seemed to him most suited to their case.—*A Friendly Address to my Cottage Neighbours.*

GOOD RESOLUTIONS.

To form good resolutions is not merely to think seriously on the subject of amendment, but it is, in humble and hearty prayer, to give ourselves up unto God; to beseech him to subdue within us every evil desire and propensity; to strengthen whatever is good and holy, and to be evermore our Father, our Guide, and our Comforter. You must be regular in the habit of prayer; you must not suffer the morning or the evening to pass without asking help and imploring forgiveness, without acknowledging past mercies and deploring your own unworthiness. Resolve, but do not *rest* upon your resolves, as having in themselves any permanent strength; they are only good and availing when they are connected with a habit of regular prayer. Whenever this is neglected, from whatever cause, be assured that religion is losing its influence over you, its duties have become irksome, or at least indifferent. Commencing and concluding every day with prayer, and this with all
ity of purpose and humility of heart, though still
far from perfection, you will be living unto God;
pose of the morning and the retrospect of the
; will embrace the hours that intervene, and the

piety of the one and the penitence of the other will impart a sanctity to every passing day. What confidence can we place in the divine protection unless we seek it? or, how can we expect to resist evil if we take not the means to confirm ourselves in the love of what is good? Our best resolves are, that we will do what we know to be right, with the help of God; but a part of every such purpose will be, that we will *seek* for that help, and not cease to pray for it from day to day while we remain in this state of trial.—*Bishop Middleton.*

THE GRACE OF CHRIST.

We must ask for the grace that is in Christ. The necessity of possessing it is manifest in the scriptures. It will help to subdue our corruptions; it will aid in the performance of duty; and enable us to bear trouble, which we are sure to meet with in life. Death itself, that dreadful enemy to nature, is converted into the most glorious of all blessings. Riches like this may well make the Christian happy under all circumstances. Then how does it affect society? Children by it are made dutiful and affectionate; apprentices and servants faithful and diligent; while masters, under its influence, will be just and kind. "Happy is that people that is in such a case; yea, happy is that people whose God is the Lord."

BRITISH GRASS-PLAIT.

The weaving of British grass for hats and bonnets is particularly recommended to the notice of labourers and others, as a good employment for their children, for the following plain reasons:—viz., that

The material is easily obtained, at little or no cost;

The art of weaving it is easily acquired:

The article is much wanted, so that there is every prospect of remuneration, and no risk of loss:

And the employment itself is calculated to make the children useful, industrious, and happy.

The grass recommended for the purpose is the Crap; and the better kind of crap is that which grows *by the path side* in the meadows; so that a respectable labourer will easily obtain leave from his master to take such grass as he requires.

THE METHOD OF HARVESTING AND PREPARING THE GRASS.—Cut it by handfuls; tie it up in good sized bundles; put the bundles into a tub or any open vessel; pour scalding water on the bundles sufficient to cover them: let them remain in water about ten minutes, take the bundles out and open them, spread the grass out lightly on a meadow or common, turn it once or twice a day for a week; collect it together, and lay it up in a dry place; let the children boot it at their leisure, and sort it into parcels of coarse and fine, and it is ready for use.

A little practice in weaving coarse straw will soon prepare the hand for weaving the grass.

A WORD ABOUT HEALTH.

WHEN you are about to take a cottage, choose one in a healthy spot; although you pay more for it, it will be cheaper in the end than one at a less rent in a damp situation.

After you are up in the morning throw open the bed-room window, and pull down the bed-clothes, that the fresh air may get to the bed. A house that is ever well aired and well washed will seldom need a visit from the doctor.

Remember, a dirty child can never be expected to be a healthy one; soap and water are much cheaper articles than medicine and ointments.

Wash your body thoroughly at least once a day, and rub well either with a towel or your dry hand, and you will know little of rheumatism and colds.

[illegible] you know you want opening medicine, get [illegible] take it at once; never wait to get worse, or [illegible] have great difficulty in getting better.

Do not expect to be well if you drink much without eating—if you eat more than you want—if you eat raw vegetables, or too many cooked ones, or unripe fruit—if you drink cold water when very hot, or put on a coat off the damp grass when you are in a sweat.

If threshing in a barn, take a mouthful of drink now and then, and you will not leave off with that excessive thirst that makes you drink more at the public-house on your way home than is good for you, or than you can afford.

Never get drunk; by so doing you weaken your bodily strength—disease your stomach—impair the powers of your mind—lose your character—injure your soul, by the blasphemy you utter and the breach of God's laws you commit—impoverish yourself and family, by wasting on your own appetite that which ought to support and clothe them—and, at last, bring yourself either to an untimely end, or to pass your wretched old age in the workhouse; and all this, because you chose to indulge in a sin that has no gratification beyond that of the moment.

Keep raw fruit out of the way of your children: the giving a child a raw apple to suck to keep it quiet is buying a half-hour's ease at the price of a week or two's constant anxiety.

To keep your children healthy, give them wholesome food in proper quantity; keep their feet within their shoes, their heads and bodies well washed, their hair close cut; let the room where they sleep be well aired—their clothes clean, and you wont often want the doctor to them; but if you do want him, get him at once; do not wait to see whether he may not chance to go by, or whether the child may not chance to get better,—by that way of acting many a life is lost.

To guard against Infection.—In cases of infectious illness, avoid standing between the sick person, and the fire. The air from the colder rushes to the

warmer part of the room, and thus the infection may be conveyed with it.

HERBS.

Marigold flowers, dried, improve broths and soups. The flavour of herbs may be preserved by drying and rubbing them to powder, to be kept in a bottle, closely corked. This will be found a good mixture—equal parts of knotted marjorum and winter savory, with half the quantity of basil, thyme, and tarragon.

THE HOLLYHOCK.

If children would not destroy this fine flower, it might be planted in the hedges of our fields; and those cottagers who keep bees would be much benefited, since the late season at which the hollyhock flowers gives the bees an opportunity to make a second season for collecting their sweets: and, after a wet or cold summer, these autumnal flowers would afford them relief, give them strength to endure the winter, and shorten it to them, by preventing their falling on their store too early. We have frequently remarked, that where the hive has been seen in the cottage garden, the inhabitants seem possessed of more domestic comforts than those who have neglected to secure a swarm of bees; and we have known several industrious families entirely clothed by the profits obtained from the sale of their honey and wax. A good strong cloth may be made from the fibrous bark of the flower stalks of the hollyhock. In 1821, about 280 acres of land near Flint, in Wales, were planted with the common hollyhock, in order to convert the fibres into thread, similar to that of hemp or flax. In the process of manufacture it was discovered that the plant yields a blue dye, equal in beauty and permanence to the finest indigo. The seed cases should be collected, when ripe, in dry weather, and kept dry, sown in April, [illegible]eds of light earth, and the young plants removed they have six or eight leaves each, into nursery about twelve inches from each other, and watered,

if the season be dry, until they have taken root. Then kept free from weeds, and planted out where they are to remain, in October. Seeds sown as soon as ripe in autumn, and planted out early in spring, will sometimes flower a year sooner than could have been obtained from spring sowing. When not wanted for seed, the choice varieties should have the flower-stalks cut down to the ground when the flowers are decayed, for if suffered to ripen the seed, it frequently weakens the plant so much that they decay during the winter. A single flower-stalk will furnish enough seed for a large garden.—*Cottager's Magazine.*

HOME.

We may say with truth, that if every one were taught to find their pleasure at home, they would not only find it there more purely and abundantly than anywhere else, but the execution of penal laws would be reduced, in very many instances, to a mere empty ceremony.

HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY.

A poor man, thrashing with a fellow-labourer in a barn, observed that his companion daily partook of animal food for his dinner, whilst he himself was frequently obliged to subsist merely on bread. He inquired, therefore, of his friend, how it was he could fare so much better than himself? to which he gave the following expressive reply:—"Master has plenty of sheep in his flock." This conversation was overheard by their employer; and not knowing what the result might be, he watched his flock during the night. The poor deluded thrasher, whose mind had been poisoned by his fellow-workman, made his way under the covert of the night to the field, and was about to take one of the sheep, when his conscience forced him to a stand. "Alas," he said, "these poor things have not injured me; honesty, after all, is the best policy. I'll e'en go home with a good conscience, and be contented to be poor."

His master meeting him the next morning, said to him, "John, honesty is the best policy." Overwhelmed with the conviction that his master was near him when he uttered these words, he confessed his temptation, and asked forgiveness. His master readily complied with his request, continued him in his service, and increased his wages. How soon do evil communications corrupt good manners! How important to be alive to the dictates of conscience!—*Villager's Magazine.*

HOW TO TAKE THE HONEY WITHOUT KILLING THE BEES.

The old-fashioned straw hive should be made with a wooden top about the shape and size of the crown of a man's hat; in the middle should be a round hole, about an inch and a half in diameter, stopped with a bung. As soon as a hive has thrown its first swarm, the bung should be taken out, and a bell-glass, capable of containing from six to ten pounds, should be placed on the wooden top, and an empty hive should be placed over it. And secured that it may not be blown off by the wind. If the honey harvest is a good one, this glass will soon be filled with honey; it may then be removed, and another put in its place. As soon as the young swarms have nearly filled their hives, the same thing may be done with them, with the same success, if the harvest be good and the hives strong.—*Cottager's Monthly Visitor.*

HOW TO MAKE THE BEST OF YOUR SITUATION IN LIFE.

Earn *as much as you honestly can, and make as much as you can of your wages.* By attention and industry get the character of a good workman, and you will never want employment at good pay. When you have got employment, endeavour to keep it, by doing your utmost to please your master.

Civility is your duty and your interest. Do not fall out with your master because he falls out with you; it may have been a bad market-day with him, or he may have been angered with some one else: if you find "your soft answer will not turn away his wrath," you will also find that a violent answer may lose you your place; at all events, because he is wrong, it can be no reason why you should be so. I know men who worked for many years on a farm, who are now working for any one and almost anything, and all because they chose to answer an angry master in an impertinent manner. Do your duty, and do not expect to find perfection in any one; your own character, and the bread to be earned for your family, are not to be risked for a few hard words.

Be no tale-bearer; your master and mistress will have plenty of persons to expose their faults—it is no business of yours. A prying servant will never prosper.

Let your master see that you are careful of his property, not ill-using his teams, or wantonly injuring any of the things entrusted to your care; he will soon perceive your conduct, and should you at any time be ill, he would be willing to keep your place open for you, for he will have learned your value.

Keep your time regularly, and always endeavour *to do well* whatever you are ordered to do; your master has purchased of you your day's labour and the full exercise of your experience—it is an act of dishonesty to rob him of an hour of your time, or to deprive him of the full benefit of your skill.

Never allow your master to be robbed by others; it is no excuse to say "you are no informer"—it is your duty to see that your employer is not plundered; by saying nothing, you encourage a thief and injure a friend.

Remember that a good fire at home in the winter is to be had much cheaper in the end than the enjoyment of that at the beer-shop. Lay in a stock of fuel in the summer for the winter's use; you will be better off and happier by your own fire-side, for you need not drink

there more than you can afford, and you do not pay for the comfort of the fire by being forced into bad company, bad hours, and bad habits.

Avoid quarrelling. No man and wife ever lived, perhaps, who had not some points upon which they disagreed; having learned these points, let each try to soften down their own, at the same time determining to put up with the other's. It is better to warm your feet on the hearth, and have a happy supper, than to put them on the hob, with the certainty of making your wife angry. It is better for her to remove "the things" from before the fire ten minutes before you come home, than to get them a few minutes more dried at the expense of "putting you out" for the whole evening.

When angry at the noise of the infant, just ask yourself what right you had to expect that your infant would not be as liable to pain and to crying as any other people's? You may, whenever you wish it, find something in your lot to grumble at; but you will find it a far happier policy to look at what you enjoy—what sufferings you are free from. I have yet to learn the full extent of misery a man may be called on to suffer; for though I have often met with those who were under what I thought the worst of trial, I have ere long found some who suffered even more. I would advise you to look at "how much worse things might be," and be thankful. The secret of contentment is to look for the best parts of our lot, and to study to acquire gratitude for what we escape of those things others are called on to suffer.

Never buy a thing because "a man happened to bring it to the door;" if you had really been unable to do without it, you would not have waited for such a chance of getting it. Pictures on the wall, and spotted china dogs, sheep, &c., on the mantel-piece, look but ill, when the children's shoes are in holes, or the bed wants a

t. *Comfort before ornament—necessaries before*

. Never run in debt, or get in arrear for rent; ccount at the shop, and a threatened seizure of

furniture by the landlord, are as weights on a man's limbs,—he can then do his work with little, if any, comfort, or return to his home with any prospect of happiness. Try to get before the world by having a few pounds laid by, and the world will not beat you, by getting you beyond your depth in difficulties.

If you can get into a good Friendly Club—one of the enrolled sort—do so at once, and then the sickness that may come on you any day will neither consume all your earnings nor force you to go on the parish; and should you die suddenly, you will not be buried as a pauper, nor will your wife be in immediate want.

Bring up your children to be honest and industrious; send them to school till they can work; get them out to service as soon as you can; keep them out of bad company, and from the use of bad words. Take care that they attend their church—they will there learn to "honour their father and mother, as well as to honour their God." If you wish them to escape being thieves and drunkards, do not let them mix with poachers or sabbath-breakers; the boy who comes home early at night may make a good servant, he who lingers at the beer-shop or public-house will get too fond of company to stick to steady work.

Keep your daughter from "light company," unless you would have her bring heaviness on your heart; *a girl's character is soon lost, and can never be regained.* A love of dress is the first flaw in it, a loose tongue has a crack in it; the company of the idle and evil, light conversation and late hours, soon complete the work of destruction; and then what have you left in the place of the child you once thought to see respected?—*one ruined and disgraced.*

Pass through life "making friends." This you will accomplish by ever seeking to do to others as you would be done by. Always be ready to help a neighbour, and you and yours will never want assistance. Kindn[ess] persevered in will wear its way to the hardest h[eart]

Bring up your children to see what it costs you to obtain their food and clothing, and thus teach them not to waste or injure what it has cost their fathers so much to obtain. Allow no waste of food, nor needless wear and tear of clothing. Have a small hole mended before it is worse; a stitch when first needed will save many.

Never punish a child when you are in a passion, lest it should think its punishment proceeds more from your ill temper than its own misconduct. Punishment, to have any good effect, should appear to be a deliberate but painful exercise of duty.

IMMORTAL INTERESTS OF MAN.

THE objects which occupy us in this world may encumber the mind, while religion alone can content it, and every wise man will, in reckoning, take this into his account, that whatever else beside the soul we are careful about, it has this degrading circumstance attending it—It has the condition only of an annuity for life; and, consequently, each successive year makes a considerable decrease in its value, and at death we lose the whole for ever.—CONTRAST: Believers have Christ in their hearts, heaven in their view, and the world under their feet. God's holy Spirit is their guide; his people are their companions; and his promises are their comfort. Holiness is their way, and heaven is their home.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

YOUR committee cannot conclude their report without calling attention to a new and very interesting feature connected with the object which the society has in view, ... establishment of an industrial school for boys by ...dlow Lab ourers' Friend Society. The object of ...ol is to afford evening instruction to the children ...ers res iding in the parish of Hadlow, in reading, and ar ithmetic, combined with practical garden... ...e rul es of the school are as follow:—

1. The school to be under the direction of the committee, who shall appoint four gratuitous superintendents.

2. The scholars to be recommended by some member of the society, for appointment by the committee.

3. Ten rods of land to be alloted to each scholar; such land to be cultivated according to the instruction of the superintendents, and the produce to belong to the scholars.

4. The land to be charged with a moderate rent, and the scholars to keep a correct account of all matters connected with their allotments; such as the time of sowing, and planting, and taking up their crops, and likewise the expense of so doing, and the amount of produce.

5. The allotments to be inspected annually by the committee, and prizes awarded to the most deserving scholars.

6. Any dispute that may arise amongst the scholars to be referred to the committee, and their decision to be binding.

Rules for the Scholars.

1. To attend at the school-room whenever requested by the superintendents, and there behave in an orderly manner.

2. No scholar to work on his land on the Sabbath-day, but to attend public worship.

3. If any scholar is convicted of dishonesty, he will be expelled from the school.

4. The rent of the land to be paid on the 29th of September.

5. The allotments will be inspected annually, and prizes awarded by the committee.

6. No persons will be allowed to interfere with the scholars but the superintendents.—*Report of the West Kent Labourers' Friend Society.*

HABITS OF INDUSTRY.

As soon as the child of a cottager can perform the smallest office for its parents or itself, it ought to begin active usefulness. Poor people often let their children run about idle four or five years, and then are quite impatient to make them work as much and as diligently as if they had always been trained to industry. Employment keeps children out of mischief; and if allowance is made for inexperience, and that they are not fatigued, work is seldom unacceptable. A bunch of feathers to dust the furniture, or a little broom to sweep the floor, or cleaning spoons, wooden platters, and such small articles, will lead, without trouble, to greater exertions. The spelling book, plain work, knitting, and mending, by making a variety, will prevent weariness, and elder children should be engaged in teaching the younger what they themselves have learnt a few months before. Order and exactness may be made more easy than irregularity, by giving each a place for their own little articles. Exercise is absolutely necessary for children, but it may be joined to cheerful industry. Collecting fuel, picking weeds and stones from the cultivated fields, will be thought of with delight within doors, when a certain hour is fixed for the employment. To establish habitual regard to the principles of honesty, a child must not be allowed to pick up a rag, a thread, a piece of wood, or the smallest article, without inquiring to whom it belongs. This easy rule, and asking leave before they touch anything, even when but lisping infants, will give a strong regard to the property of others. Some people make a boast of the catechisms, psalms, and chapters, their little ones can repeat. The poor infants are wearied with long tasks, and perhaps for ever disgusted. It is not what they *read*, but what they *understand*, that will uence their behaviour; and it is of the utmost imnce to associate no repulsive ideas with the service ir blessed Creator.—*From Sketches of Intellectual ation, by Mrs. Grant, slightly altered.*

DESTRUCTION OF INSECTS AND VERMIN.

It has long been known that the leaves of elder, when put into the under-ground paths of moles, will drive them away; when the same, in a green state, are rubbed over fruit trees and flowering shrubs, or when strewed among corn, or garden vegetables, insects will not attach to them. An infusion of these leaves in warm water is good for sprinkling over rose-buds and flowers subject to blight; also to prevent the devastations of caterpillars. A late American journal states that the water in which potatoes have been boiled, sprinkled over grain or garden plants, completely destroys all insects, in every stage of existence, from the egg to the full-grown fly.

Ammoniacal liquor, produced in the manufacture of gas from coal, and to be procured for the trouble of carrying, at any gas-works, will effectually destroy the grub and other worms, which so often defeat the hopes of the gardener, more particularly as regards his early crops. So far is this liquid from injuring even the tenderest plant, that it seems rather to invigorate than otherwise. —*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

Caterpillars.—Live coal or peat, placed in a flower-pot, or other convenient vessel, and a small portion of tobacco; set it under the bush to be smoked, throw an old cloth or carpet over the bush, and use a bellows for blowing peat. The smoke will ascend, and be confined to the bush, from which the caterpillars will fall, apparently lifeless, in four or five minutes, but would recover if not collected with a hoe and destroyed. The plan should also be used in the earlier stages of the caterpillar.—*Northampton Herald.*

Rats.—In 1838, Mr. Baird, Greenbank, Pollokshaws, sowed a small plot of garlic in his garden in spring, and when the grain was deposited in the stack-yard, in harvest, a little of the garlic was strewn on the ground, and it was found when the stacks were put in, in the spring of the following year, that they were entirely free from the inroads of the rats. In 1839, Mr. Baird repeated the

experiment, and last week he took in the last of his stacks without having sustained the slightest damage.—*Glasgow Herald.*

Slugs.—The havoc made by slugs in fruit and vegetable gardens is generally known and lamented, while the best mode of destroying them is generally unknown or neglected. If pounded oyster-shells be slightly sprinkled over the beds they infest and then turned just under the surface, the slugs will disappear for several years. The writer of this states it from experience. Gentlemen should avail themselves of so easy and unfailing a preservative for their choice flowers and vegetables—*Dublin Morning Post.*

Turnip Fly.—A small quantity of train oil well mixed with coarse sand, and scattered over the ground as the turnips begin to show their seed leaves, is an excellent preventive. One gallon of oil to two bushels of sand; and as this would only cost about four shillings it is worthy of a fair trial.

AN INVALUABLE HINT.

For the wasting pleasures of an hour, how does the cruel adversary of man's salvation induce the mind to forget real and substantial joys? Look at the unprofitableness of sin, while we consider the dignity of the man who truly loves God; he is an heir of Heaven, and calls Christ brother. He has no enemies but those who are God's enemies, therefore he cannot but be safe,—all alarms would be in the highest degree unreasonable; he is promised by him that cannot lie, consummate peace without alloy, and at present his sorrow for sin is attended with holy joy. He has an antidote against death, for death to him is (it is an amazing thing) abolished. How frothy and unsatisfactory is all that the worldling, or the god of this world who deludes him, hold up in comparison of

Even temporal comforts (however lawful in the
t) lose their importance in the sight of such
asures; riches indeed, unspeakable, and full

INTEREST.

A HINT TO THE WORKING CLASSES.—If a man at twenty-one years of age, began to save 4*s.* a week, and put it to interest every year, he would have, at thirty-one years of age, 130*l.* 15*s.* 1½.; at forty-one, 371*l.* 7*s.* 3¾*d.*; at fifty-one, 735*l.* 15*s.* 11½*d.*; at sixty-one, 1229*l.* 5*s.* 2¼*d.*; at seventy-one, 2296*l.* 0*s.* 4¾*d.*—*Farmer's Magazine.*

LABOURERS' FRIEND SOCIETY.

THE ninth annual meeting of the members of this society was held in the committee-room, on the 9th of April, 1840, J. Ilderton Burn, Esq. in the chair, when a report was read, from which we give some extracts showing the satisfactory progress which is being made in bettering the condition and elevating the character of the industrious poor.

"Every year's additional experience attests the great advantage which a poor family derives from an allotment of land; not only as an augmentation of their domestic comforts, but also as conducive to their moral improvement. To this latter subject, the moral improvement of the labouring classes, the attention of your committee has been more than usually directed during the past year, and the result of their observation is in the highest degree encouraging."

"To another subject, which the recent insurrection in Wales has rendered important, the attention of the friends of the Society in the West of England has also been directed,—viz., the effect of allotments of land on the subordination of the people.

"At the recent meeting of the East Somerset Labourers' Friend Society, the fact was stated with confidence and satisfaction, that in those parishes in which the allotment system had been introduced, although the population is large, and chiefly engaged in the coal mines, all the efforts of disaffected persons to introduce discontent and insubordination had been unsuccessful: whilst

the disturbed districts, it appears that although many of the labourers have small gardens they are only on such a scale as not to interest or materially to benefit them. The fact is now well established, that to be available as an occupation for leisure hours, an allotment must be of a sufficient quantity to yield not only amusement, but comfort and profit also; whereas in the disturbed districts, as the Rev. Mr. Joliffe states, "populated by fifty or sixty thousand persons, there was no field-garden system, no cottage husbandry, not a spade was used by the working man for his own immediate benefit."

"Amongst the early objections urged against the plans of the Society, and still occasionally brought forward, it has been stated that their universal adoption would require so large a quantity of land, that it would be inconvenient and impracticable, and, at all events highly impolitic, to divert it from the ordinary purposes of agriculture, and to give it up to this object. Your committee, therefore, refer with great satisfaction on this, as they do on all subjects relating to allotments, to the calculation furnished by Captain Scobell relative to the three parishes with which he is immediately connected; and which he states he has given, "to quiet the still unallayed alarm of some who imagine that an appalling quantity of land is required to carry out this system."

"High Littleton contains 1250 acres, of which fourteen are appropriated to field gardens. In Midsomer Norton there are 3800 acres, of which twenty-eight are rented by garden occupiers; and in North Bruham there are 1838 acres, of which nine only are let off for that purpose; so that in the whole of those three parishes, containing 6888 acres, only fifty-one acres (which is just

quarters of an acre per cent.) are set apart to con-
to the employment, happiness, and profit, of 250
of whom Captain Scobell says most justly,
eaking of one of his rent-days, "At each anni-
that I thus assemble with them, I am taught
d more to understand, and to value, the general

honest and intelligent bearing of their minds, and their willing and full appreciation of confidence reposed in them."

"The spread of a system, then, which improves the morals of men, which diminishes crime, which furnishes those who have departed from the paths of rectitude, and paid the penalty of their transgressions, with an opportunity of regaining their character and their standing in society, which opposes a successful resistance to the enticements of insubordination, and which accomplishes all these beneficial effects by merely a transfer of land from a higher to a lower class of tenants, involving no risk, and entailing no sacrifice, must surely be a matter of sincere and heartfelt congratulation, to all who are interested in the improvement and happiness of mankind.

"Your committee, therefore, have now to state, which they do with great satisfaction, the continued progress and extension of the allotment system.

"At the last Annual Meeting, your committee reported that in West Kent the plans of the Society had been adopted in above twenty parishes; and at that time they were on the point of being introduced into ten additional parishes; to which twelve more may now be added, making a total of forty-two parishes in that division of the county. At Tonbridge Wells, a society has been formed under the patronage of the Marquis of Camden, which has already received about two hundred applications from labourers for land.

"At Crewkerne, Ilminster, and Chard, Taunton, the Hundred of Blything, in Norfolk, Woolpit, in Suffolk, and various other places, of which, reports, from time to time, have been received, and published in the Magazine, the system has worked so well, as to satisfy the expectations of its most sanguine friends. Throughout East Somerset, the allotment system now prevails generally, and the few solitary parishes which have not adopted it are to be regarded only as exceptions to the general rule. These will probably cease soon, a

ystem become co-extensive with that division of the county. There the testimony of the Venerable Bishop of Bath and Wells, as quoted by the Rev. T. Spencer, that it is "an unmixed good," has received ample confirmation.

"The gentleman just referred to states, respecting his own parish of Hinton Charterhouse, after relating the observations he had made on the Bishop's allotments at Wells,—"I lost no time in endeavouring to introduce the system into my own parish. I had no land there myself, but I prevailed upon the owners of Hinton Abbey to allot first ten acres; these were readily taken, and more was eagerly sought for. Fifteen were next allotted, which were soon increased to twenty, and there are now nearly thirty acres divided among sixty tenants. To this day neither party has repented, and not a penny of rent is due. The system is one which will bear examination, and it will gain favour by examination. The labourer, who has strength, sinews, and industry, must thrive under it."

"At Exeter, a Labourers' Friend Society, of which Lord Rolle is patron, and the Earl of Devon president, has been recently established, for the threefold purpose of granting allotments of land, forming a loan fund, and a benefit society for the usual purposes, which are enrolled agreeably to the acts of parliament. There can be no doubt that in Exeter, as in other places where a similar plan has been acted upon, these several objects will not only harmonize, but materially subserve each other in promoting the welfare of the labouring classes.

"At Hull, also, a Labourers' Friend Society has been established, in which there are already 200 tenants, with a prospect of further extension, not only in that town, but through other parts of the East Riding of Yorkshire.

"The agent at present employed by the Society, in West Kent, was engaged, at the close of the last year, in superintending, in five parishes, the appropriation of 112 acres of land,—namely between the 1st of October

and the 31st of December, and since that period sixty-two acres have been engaged in seven other parishes."

"Your Committee would conclude this report in the figurative language of one of its most zealous and faithful friends:—'When a man plants a valuable tree, he uses care; he prepares the soil; he spreads the roots, and supports it with props; he then watches it from season to season, until it is sufficiently matured to withstand, in its own strength, the blights and blasts around it, and he welcomes with calm exultation its healthy blossoms and its ripened fruits. The field-garden plan has passed through all the vicissitudes of this little tree. It was planted with caution; its supports were adequately arranged; its roots have spread firmly in the soil; its branches have put forth with vigour; it has borne unscathed each adverse element; its blossoms have perfected, and it yields its fruits so abundantly that now we may calmly leave the issue to Him who causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man.'"

The finances of the Society were reported to be in a satisfactory state, and among the Resolutions adopted was the following one:

"That it is very desirable to show to the public the benefit, by contrast, of the Society's principles, on the state of crime existing among the labouring classes before its establishment and since, which has been satisfactorily shown by Mr. Martin: it is therefore resolved that the committee be requested to do this, in a note to the annual report.*"

* "The statement made by Mr. Martin, which occasioned the passing of the above Resolution at the Annual Meeting, referred to some information given to him by one of the old officers of a populous parish in Kent, in which a Labourers' Friend Society was established in the year 1834. The statement was given on the authority of the said officer's books, that in one year just previous to the formation of the society, there had been thirty-four persons committed to prison from that parish; and that in the last year, 1839, after the society had been in operation very little more than four years, only three commitments had taken place."

INSURANCE OF COWS.

THE insurance of the lives of men and women has been for some time becoming more and more prevalent, but a society for insuring the lives of cows is a decided novelty in this country. Such institutions have been found productive of great good in Scotland, and we are glad to observe that it was resolved lately, at Alnwick, to establish a Mutual Insurance Society to insure the cows of hinds, &c., in Northumberland. A small sum like 2*s.* 6*d.*, as a subscription from each member half-yearly, is deemed sufficient to cover the risks, with the contributions made gratuitously to the society, by the neighbouring landowners and gentry.—*Tyne Mercury.*

JEFFERSON'S TEN RULES

FOR OBSERVANCE IN ORDINARY LIFE.—1st. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to day.

2. Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.

3. Never spend your money before you have it.

4. Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap; it will be dear to you.

5. Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst, or cold.

6. We seldom repent of having eaten too little.

7. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.

8. How much pains the evils have cost us which never happened.

9. Take things always by the smooth handle.

10. When angry, count ten before you speak; if very angry, a hundred.

KNITTING.

KNIT stockings and socks are much stronger than what are generally bought. If the knitting-bag be kept about, many spare minutes will be found in which the work may be forwarded. Knitting can be taken up at any time, and laid down as readily. The dark hour in winter, and that of dusk in summer, may be well employed in knitting.

It is stated, that in the Electorate of Hesse, and farther north, the men knit by the cottage fire during the long winter evenings, while the women spin. Is this not much better than spending the dusk hours in the beer-house? And why should not a man make stockings as well as shoes?—*Saturday Magazine.*

LEECHES.

Leeches thrive in water at the bottom of which is a layer of charcoal, the water being changed and the vessel well cleaned every ten or fifteen days. After they have been used, they may be thrown into a plate covered with wood ashes; when they have disgorged all the blood they had sucked, and been well washed with fresh water, they may be put back into the vessel so as to serve several times. This should only be covered with a piece of linen.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL.

God hath written a law and a gospel—the law to humble us, and the gospel to comfort us; the law to cast us down, and the gospel to raise us up; the law to convince us of misery, and the gospel to convince us of his mercy; the law to discover sin, and the gospel to discover grace, and Christ; through the instrumentality of the law as the rule of his justice, we behold God governing his creatures from the beginning of the world to the end of time; while, in beautiful harmony, the gospel will at the last day appear as the glorious instrument of salvation.

CHEAP LIGHTNING CONDUCTOR.

To the highest and most salient point of the building, such as the angle of a chimney, a pole should be attached surmounted by an iron point, about two feet long, and having a hook at the lower end, from which a rope should be suspended, made of rye, or other strong straw,

three or four inches in circumference, passing along the roof and down the side of the building to the ground, which it must be made to enter by means of an iron chain, fastened to the lower end. The electric fluid will be attracted by, and it is said, will pass down, this conductor as well as down a metallic one.—*The Nouvelliste.*

LOVE TO GOD.

Do persons who profess to love God as their Creator, and He who can ever make them happy, love his company? do they seek retirement? We all know that friendship deals much in secrecy, kindred souls having a multitude of things to hear and to utter that are not for common ear. This is a kind of life which the Christian has, and which the worldly man, whether rich or poor, has no notion of. It is that which leaves no sting behind. Surely every one who thinks of having God and heaven as his portion ought, in justice to his own soul, to inquire how he likes contemplating them now.

MANURE.

HINTS ON MANURE.—Remove litter of every kind; dig vacant spaces, and lay up in ridges those plots where the soil is of a clayey or binding nature. It would be well to save the shoots of raspberries, old strawberry plants, clippings of hedges, and such litter, with cabbage-stumps, potato-haulm, bean-stalks, and other unmanageable refuse, which will not rot freely in the dung-heap; when dry, to burn them, and preserve the ashes, under cover, to be mixed with finely-sifted coal-ashes, as a lightening dress for binding soil. A fair proportion of such materials, scattered over and between ridges, in early spring, before digging and levelling, would very much improve both the soil itself and its texture.

SEASONS OF MANURING.—Manures spread upon a garden in autumn or winter, are in part either washed ins too deep into the soil for the roots to reach them,

or their best materials are carried off into the air before they can be taken up by the roots. The time, then, that manure is of the greatest advantage is on the commencement of growth in spring, when the roots are most active in feeding and lengthening out. To spread out manure in dry weather, or bright sunshine, must be to certain loss; to wheel it out in winter, and leave it in heaps, is bad, from giving too much to the spot where the heap is.

Bone Manure is considered the best that can be laid upon land. Nearly every family who occupies a garden would have sufficient bones from their own table, if carefully preserved the whole year, to manure a garden: the bones should be broken small. The effect of a small quantity of bone-dust sown with peas, carrots, onions, &c., is quite surprising. The same may be said when small pieces are put into the earth when potatoes are planted. By this simple and economical system, we should dispense with the heavy load of manure in the wheelbarrow, and also with buying, every spring, several shillings' worth of manure.

Vegetable Manure.—Take the stalks of your early potatoes, generally thrown away, and place them on the same ridge where they grew; cover them over with earth, shake in a little rape-seed, and you may depend on having, early in the spring, a large supply of green-food for your cows, pigs, &c., with your ground manured for another crop into the bargain.

A Dust-hole and Dunghill are frequently combined in the case of cottages in the country; and as the water, which in town-houses is poured down the sink, is thrown into this pit, a very excellent manure is produced. In order that this manure-pit may be as little injurious to health as possible, it should be at the distance of some yards from the cottage, and in warm weather it should be covered with boards, or even with a straw

hurdle, to prevent evaporation and the diffusion of offensive smells. Attached to every dwelling there ought, properly, to be two dust or refuse holes; one for vegetable and animal matters, dust, ashes, &c., which are convertible into manure; and another, much smaller, for broken earthenware, glass, stones, &c., which are of no use, except for the bottoms of roads or walks, or for grinding into powder for Roman cement, or anti-corrosion paint. Bones also should, if possible, be kept apart, because when broken and fermented, they make a most valuable manure. But as few materials produce more offensive and dangerous smells than bones, wherever they are so kept, it will be well to throw some sifted ashes from the fire-places in along with them, because the drying thus caused prevents the offensive smell. In whatever way the dust, ashes, bones, and vegetable refuse of a house are kept, (unless as above mentioned at a distance,) as little moisture as possible ought to be admitted with them, as this promotes putrefaction.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.* [Attention to this subject seems important, both as a means of preventing disease, and of benefiting allotments, by obtaining manure.]

PIG-STIES.—Many cottagers in the neighbourhood of Brigg, Lincolnshire, have adopted a mode of manuring their gardens which cannot be too generally followed. Their pig-sties are so formed, that all the nuisance runs into a tub in one corner, which is emptied, as occasion requires, upon their garden ground, by which simple method their potato crops, &c., are doubled, and at the same time a great nuisance prevented.

SOOT AS A TOP-DRESSING FOR WHEAT.—We have been struck with the vivid greenness of the pasture-land around Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and have been informed that it entirely arises from copious top-dressings of soot it réceives every year. We can believe the state- or we have observed its excellent effects on grass Ireland. It possesses the advantage of being a

cheap manure, its cost not exceeding two shillings a quarter, and five quarters are a sufficient dressing for an acre. It may also be successfully used in compost, as the following statement shows, and its effects are thus much more durable than when used alone:—When spread early in the winter on meadow lands, the beneficial effects of soot are frequently observable for three successive seasons; but when mixed with earth and dung, its use is attended with even greater success, a soapy earth is formed, which is beneficial to almost all kinds of plants, and its use quickens vegetation. The mixture should be formed of two parts of earth, one of soot, and one of dung. A layer of earth should be covered with soot, over which a layer of dung should be placed, and thus alternate layers must be arranged in a bed, about three or four feet high, and three wide. Soot mixed with the earth dug from ditches, in the proportion of one-fourth, may, in about six months afterwards, be used with success in dressing meadows; of this latter mixture about thirty bushels should be used to the acre; spread on wet soils, it will destroy the moss, and neutralize the bad qualities of the soil. Cattle are observed to prefer the grass grown on lands dressed with soot, which owes its valuable properties to the quantity of carbonate of ammonia which it contains, and which is a most active stimulant. On this subject we would remark, that soot, like many other articles, is even subject to sophistication by the unprincipled vender, who, mixing it with charred saw-dust, and many other carbonaceous substances, the refuse of many chemical operations, renders it comparatively inert and valueless."—*Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.*

METAL.

KETTLES AND OTHER VESSELS.—The crust on boilers and kettles, arising from the hard water boiled in them, may be prevented, by keeping in the vessel a marble or a potato, tied in a piece of linen. Tin-plate vessels are

cleanly and convenient; but unless dried after washing will soon rust in holes. Iron coalscoops are liable to rust from the damp of the coals. Cast-iron articles are brittle, and cannot be mended. If cold water be thrown on cast-iron when hot, (as the back of a grate,) it will crack. The tinning of copper saucepans must be kept perfect, clean, and dry, in which case they may be used with safety. Copper pans, if *put away damp*, or a boiling copper, if left wet, will become coated with poisonous crust, or verdigris. Untinned copper or brass vessels, even if scoured bright and clean, are always dangerous. A German saucepan is best for boiling milk in; this is a saucepan glazed with white earthenware, instead of being tinned. The glaze prevents its tendency to burn. A stew-pan made like it is preferable to a metal preserving-pan.

MINERS' LIBRARIES AND PROVIDENT FUND.

One of the best means of gaining valuable knowledge is by reading good books, which contain a fund of useful information; even cottagers may, by proper economy, buy, and sometimes borrow of one another.

I shall here relate a few particulars respecting the well-known lead mines in Scotland, which belong to the Earl of Hopetoun. The labourers in these mines bear little resemblance to their brethren in other quarters. They are of a sober, cheerful, and intelligent character; they work in the mines only six hours out of the twenty-four; they have, therefore, much leisure, which they employ, partly in the cultivation of small pieces of land allotted to them, and partly in reading. They have been at the expense of fitting up a public library, toward which they all contributed for the purchase of books. They have also a good school for the education of their children. The library was established by an overseer, named Stirling, who prevailed with the workmen to unite for that purpose. Before the existence of the library, the

miners here were in no degree superior to the ordinary colliers; but a taste for learning produced its ordinary consequences—decency, industry, independence, and a desire to give good education to their children.

"The inhabitants of Leadhills and Wanlock are remarkable for honesty, industry, and sobriety. Theft is a crime almost unknown in either of the villages; nor have I ever heard of any one of the miners themselves, or any individuals among their families, who was ever accused of it. The late Duke of Queensberry, having occasion to pass through Wanlock, about twenty years since, gave the miners five pounds, that they might drink his health; but, instead of doing so, they considered that they should equally testify their respect and gratitude to his grace, and act far more wisely for themselves at the same time, by making this five pounds the commence ment of a charitable fund, for the relief of miners when sick, or rendered unfit for working by age, as also for the benefit of their widows. The sum was accordingly thus appropriated, and the principal now amounts to 700*l*."—*Christian Observer*, 1828.

NEEDLE-WORK.

To obviate the difficulty of getting the needle through hard-dressed calico, &c., stick it now and then into a piece of white soap, or tallow candle, and it will work easy

NEIGHBOURLY KINDNESS.

It is a pleasant thing to have the character of a good neighbour. Who is it that deserves it? Not the idle gossip, who, for want of useful employment at home, goes to spend an hour in one neighbour's house, and an hour in another's, assisting the idle in squandering the time they already despise, and robbing the industrious of a precious jewel of which they know not the value. Those are not good neighbours who lead each other into pleasures and expenses which are unprofitable in

themselves, or which the circumstances of the parties do not justify. There are many families living in frugal comfort, to whom the expense of a dinner or tea party would be a serious inconvenience; yet such inconvenience is frequently entailed by thoughtless, though perhaps well-meaning neighbours, who press them to accept of entertainments which seem to lay them under a sort of obligation to invite in return.

A good neighbour is, first, *harmless and peaceable.* He will not intentionally annoy or injure another. The children of such a family are not permitted to throw stones into a neighbour's garden, to hurt his cat, or to worry his poultry; or to slip the fastenings of his window-shutters, and suffer them to get loose, and break the glass. These, and numerous other feats, performed by rude and ill-trained children for the annoyance of the neighbourhood, are never tolerated in the family of the good neighbour. Should any inconvenience have been inadvertently occasioned by him or his, it is no sooner mentioned than cheerfully removed or repaired.

The good neighbour is *kind and accommodating.* It gives him pleasure to promote the comfort and welfare of those around him. Good neighbours, especially among the industrious poor, frequently have it in their power to protect each other's children and property during the absence of the parents. They may also materially assist each other in enjoying the public services of religion, by alternately taking charge of each other's infants and household affairs during the hours of worship.

The good neighbour will avoid a meddlesome, obtrusive interference, yet will not hesitate to point out, in a kind and gentle manner, any mistake into which a neighbour may have fallen, or any advantage he may have overlooked, by which the interests of himself and family may be promoted.

Especially, the good neighbour will not fail to use the influence given him, by kindness in common things, to persuade those for whom he is interested, to frequent the

worship of God in his sanctuary, to maintain family prayer, and to attend to the moral and religious education of their children. The conduct of a consistent Christian family is a kind of living invitation to those around:—"Come with us, and we will do you good, for God hath spoken good concerning Israel;" and not unfrequently has the reply been heard, "We will go with you, for we perceive that God is with you."—*Family Book.*

ODD SCRAPS FOR THE ECONOMICAL HOUSEWIFE.

If you would avoid waste in your family, attend to the following rules, and do not despise them because they appear so unimportant, but recollect the old Scotch proverb, "Many a little makes a *mickle*."—"Look frequently to the pails, to see that nothing is thrown to the pigs which should have been in the grease-pot. Look to the grease-pot, and see that nothing is there which might have served to nourish your own family, or a poorer one. See that the vegetables are neither dying nor decaying; if they are so, remove them to a drier place and spread them. As far as it is possible, have bits of bread eaten up before they become hard; spread those that are not eaten, and let them dry, to be pounded for puddings or soaked for brewis. Brewis is made of crusts and dry pieces of bread, soaked a good while in milk, mashed up and salted, and placed before the fire or in the oven for a short time, and eaten buttered like toast. There is no good management in that poor man's house where a particle of bread is wasted, even in the hottest weather. Attend to all the mending in the house once a week; never put out sewing. If it is quite impossible for you to do it yourself, hire some one into the house, and let your family and yourself work with them. Make your own bread and cake. Some people think it is just as cheap to buy of the baker and the pastry-cook; but it is not half so cheap. True, it is more convenient, and

therefore the rich are justified in doing so; but the industrious and frugal housewife should make convenience a secondary consideration. If the baker makes your bread, it is right that his time should be paid for, and you must do so; but you had far better employ your own time than pay for his.

ONE GLASS MORE.

Stay, mortal, stay! nor heedless thus
Thy sure destruction seal;
Within that cup there lurks a curse
Which all who drink must feel.

Disease and Death, for ever nigh,
Stand ready at the door,
And eager wait to hear the cry
Of "Give me one glass more."

Go, view that prison's gloomy cells,
Their pallid tenants scan;
Gaze, gaze upon these earthly hells,
And ask how they began.

Had these a tongue, O man! thy cheek
The tale would crimson o'er:
Had these a tongue, to thee they'd speak
And answer, "One glass more."

Behold that wretched female form,
An outcast from her home,
Bleached in affliction's blighting storm,
And doomed in want to roam.

Behold her! ask that prattler dear
Why mother is so poor,
She'll whisper in thy startled ear,
"'Twas father's one glass more."

Stay, mortal, stay! repent, return;
Reflect upon thy fate;
The poisonous draught indignant spurn—
Spurn, spurn it ere too late.

Oh! fly the alehouse' horrid din,
Nor linger near the door,
Lest thou, perchance, should sip again
The treacherous "One glass more."

ONIONS.

THERE is a method practised in Germany of growing onions by which they are rendered very mild, and as large as the Spanish. The process is stated to be suitable to this climate, though it is not known to have been tried. At the end of the summer, or in the fall of the year, select the largest onions that can be got; let them be quite sound, and perfectly free from bruise or blemish. Tie them by the stalks to a thin rope of dry straw, each rope containing from twelve to twenty onions. Hang them in a very dry and warm place, either near the kitchen fire or near an oven. Here they must remain all the winter, and have sufficient heat gradually to dry them, so that they shall retain no apparent moisture. When the frost is over, and the spring has fully set in, separate the onions carefully from the stems of straw, and put them into the earth, where, instead of shooting up green, they will expand, and grow to an enormous size. These onions have the further advantage of remaining perfectly sound and good, until the end of the ensuing season.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

MR. MACDONALD, gardener to the Duke of Buccleuch, at Dalkeith, has communicated to the Caledonian Horticultural Society an important improvement in the culture of onions. As soon as the produce of his seed-beds attain a proper size, he chooses a moist day, takes up the plants, and after immersing them in a puddle composed of one part soot and three parts earth, transplants them (by drilling) about four inches asunder, in rows, and afterwards carefully hoes them when required. This process answers with any kind of onions, and the root equals in size the best Spanish onions, heavier for its bulk, firmer, and more pungent.

OUR RELIGION.

THE gospel, which is good-news, or glad tidings, the scriptures acquaint us is the power of God unto salvation

to every one that believeth. Deliverance is here proclaimed of infinite value, since our souls are of infinite worth, and our future happiness depends upon our acceptance of this gospel. Condemned by the law, we stood as culprits, full of deformity in the sight of God by reason of sin, when, lo! the Lord laid on the Saviour the iniquity of us all, and by his stripes we are healed. By this gospel the Holy Spirit takes of the things of Christ, and shows them unto us. We believe in this mercy; we believe with the heart unto righteousness; we repent with genuine sorrow of our sins, and become haters of sin; we love the purity of God, and henceforth delight in the law of the Lord, after the inward man. Pride, envy, malice, hatred, hypocrisy, revenge, the lusts of the flesh, the lusts of the eye, and the pride of life, give place to spiritual affections, and pleasures substantial and refined. Prayer to God, through our ever-blessed Redeemer and Advocate, that we may make progress in holiness, and that, looking perpetually unto Jesus, we may be changed completely into his image, is our daily occupation, while with rapture we look forward to heaven as our final home.

HINTS TO PARENTS.

THE first thing to be instilled into the minds of children is to fear God. This is the beginning and the end of wisdom. Next, they ought to be induced to be kind one to another. Great care ought to be taken to guard against speaking on improper subjects in their presence, since lasting impressions are made at a very early age; on the contrary, our conversation ought to be on good and instructive topics. Imperceptibly to themselves or others, they derive great benefit from such discourse; for it is quite certain that children take the tinge either of good or evil, without the process being perceived.—*Cottager's Monthly Visitor.*

PARISH RELIEF.

THE man who, by his own and his family's labour, can provide food, clothing, and a comfortable cottage, is not a poor man, and ought not to ask for parish relief, which should belong to those alone who, by old age or sickness, are unable to support themselves. His family may be large; but while he is blessed with health and strength he ought not to throw the burden of it upon others. The more people there are to receive parish relief, of course the less each person can have; and if those who can support themselves receive it, they are, in fact, robbing those who cannot.

Formerly, people never thought of asking assistance from the parish, except when they were quite unable to work; but now there are few poor people who do not receive it: one great cause of this is *early marriages*. If young people marry without a farthing to furnish a cottage, or support a family, they *must* ask parish relief; for, with an increasing family, they are unable to save money even to pay their yearly rent, and, notwithstanding this relief, they all their lives struggle with poverty.

PARSLEY.

THIS excellent herb may be preserved through the whole season, and in every climate, by the following simple process;—Pull or cut your parsley when full grown, hang it up to dry, and when wanted for use, rub a little of it betwixt the palms of the hand, put it in the pot, and it will immediately resume its smell, flavour, and colour, although it may have been kept for years.

AN INTELLIGENT, WELL-INFORMED PEASANT.

IT was but the other day that the farming-man of a neighbouring lady having been pointed out to me as at once remarkably fond of reading and attached to his profession, I entered into conversation with him; and it is

long since I experienced such a cordial pleasure as in the contemplation of the character that opened upon me. He was a strong man; not to be distinguished by his dress and appearance from those of his class, but having a very intelligent countenance; and the vigorous, healthful feeling and right views, that seemed to fill not only his mind but his whole frame, spoke volumes for that vast enjoyment and elevation of character which a rightly-directed taste for reading would diffuse amongst our peasantry. His sound appreciation of those authors he had read—some of our best poets, historians, essayists, and travellers—was truly cheering, when contrasted with the miserable and frippery taste which distinguishes a large class of readers. I found this countryman was a member of our Artisans' Library, and every Saturday evening he walked over to the town to exchange his books. I asked him whether reading did not make him less satisfied with his daily work; his answer deserves universal attention. "Before he read, his work was weary to him; for, in the solitary fields an empty head measured the time out tediously to double its length; but now, no place was so sweet as the solitary fields: he had always something pleasant floating across his mind; and the labour was delightful; the day only too short." Seeing his ardent attachment to the country, I sent him the last edition of *The Book of the Seasons;* and I must here give a verbatim et literatim extract from the note in which he acknowledged its receipt, because it not only contains an experimental proof of the falsity of a common alarm on the subject of popular education, but shows at what a little cost much happiness may be conveyed to a poor man:—"Believe me, dear sir, this kind act of yours has made an impression on my heart that time will not easily erase. There are none of your works, in my opinion, more valuable than this. The study of nature is not only the most delightful, but the most elevating This will be true in every station of life. But how much more ought the poor man to prize this study! which, if

prized and pursued as it ought, will enable him to bear with patient resignation and cheerfulness the lot by Providence assigned to him. O sir, I pity the working man who possesses not a taste for reading. 'Tis true, it may sometimes lead him to neglect the other more important duties of his station, but his better and more enlightened judgment will soon correct itself in this particular, and will enable him, while he steadily and diligently pursues his private studies, and participates in intellectual enjoyment, to prize as he ought his character as man in every relative duty of life." What a nation would this be, filled with a peasantry holding such views, and possessing such a consequent character as this!—HOWITT'S *Rural Life in England.*

HAMBURGH PICKLE.

SIX pounds of salt, and four ounces of saltpetre, to four gallons of water, boiled and skimmed, will preserve any meat completely covered with it; to secure which, lay a heavy board or flat stone on the meat; this is the celebrated Hamburgh pickle.

PIG-KEEPING.

ALMOST every cottager will find it profitable to keep a pig, if he know how to manage it; but with bad management, neither pigs nor anything else will be advantageous.

No cottager who has not abundance of milk should attempt to keep a breeding sow; for, without a good deal of milk with her food, a sow will be a bad nurse, and her pigs will be worth little or nothing. Even supposing the pigs to be tolerable while sucking, without a supply of milk they cannot be properly weaned.

The best way, then, will be for the cottager to buy his pig early in summer, when it is three or four months old, as it will then eat anything, such as grass by the wayssides, the refuse of the garden and the offals of the kitchen, which, if not the more scanty in quantity, will

keep it in heart till the potatoes come in to give it additional keep, and prepare it for taking on fat in the autumn.

It may be remarked, however, that such feeding, though the only mode usually within a cottager's reach, is not so good as the milk-feeding of a dairy farmer, or even as the grain-feeding of a brewer, though it is much preferable to the garbage-feeding of a butcher. But though Irish bacon is not so good, certainly, as Wiltshire bacon, where the hogs have plenty of acorns and beech-mast, yet even potato-bacon must be acknowledged to be greatly better than no bacon at all.

Way-side grazing, cabbage-leaves, kitchen offals, or even potatoes, however, will not bring a pig into good condition without the addition of peas, or what is still better, oatmeal or barley-meal, and particularly supplying them with clean fresh water to drink. Mr. Drury recommends, and I think most justly, all the food to be steamed or boiled. Where fuel is dear this cannot so well be done; but it is of the utmost importance in feeding all animals. He thus boils up turnips, cabbage-leaves, bean-stalks, nettles, and other weeds, and mixes them with oatmeal, and affirms it to be excellent.

Mr. Harris says, "Prepare the food by boiling or steaming potatoes; then mix with every bushel one gallon of ground oats, barley-meal, or pollard, peas, buckwheat, or Indian corn; the latter of which is the best. The hogs should be fed three times a day, always giving them the food lukewarm."

A six months' old pig, if in good condition, may, by these means, be fattened in about ten weeks; but this will not be so profitable as the fattening of an older pig for bacon, which may take double that time.

Young pigs are particularly impatient of cold, and must have the sty warm, dry, and well-aired.

Dry clean straw, or hay, must always be supplied, as a pig is very particular about its bed, which it will itself.

Though pigs are proverbially dirty, and fond of wallowing in mud and mire, it is a great mistake not to keep them scrupulously clean; for uncleanliness will be almost certain to bring on one or other of the skin-disorders to which they are so liable, and the irritation thence produced will injure their appetite, and prevent them from getting into good condition.

Should any eruption appear, a little sulphur and madder may be advantageously mixed with the food.—*Hand-book of Allotment Agriculture.*

THE following experiment has been made by a gentleman of Norfolk. Six pigs, of nearly equal weight, were put to keeping at the same time, and treated the same as to food and litter for seven weeks. Three of them were left to shift for themselves as to cleanliness; the other three were kept as clean as possible by a man employed for the purpose, with a currycomb and brush. The last consumed in seven weeks fewer peas by five bushels than the other three, yet weighed more when killed by two stone and four pounds upon the average.—WADE'S *British History.*

PLAIN AND PRACTICABLE.

IF any one intends to improve his condition, he must earn all he can, spend as little as he can, and make what he does spend bring him and his family all the real enjoyment he can. The first saving which a working man makes out of his earnings is the first step, and, because it is the first, the most important step towards true independence. Independence is as practicable for an industrious labourer as for a tradesman or merchant, and is as great a blessing to him. Possessing a reserved sum or commodities, however little, so that they are under ordinary circumstances increasing, will not fail to produce independence of feeling and of character, and leads a man to trust to himself and not to others, for what (under Providence) is necessary to his own comfort

and the happiness of his family. The true economy of housekeeping is the art of "gathering up the fragments that nothing be lost;" I mean, fragments of time, as well as of food or materials. Nothing should be thrown away as long as it is possible to make any use of it, however trifling that use may be; and whatever be the size of the family, every member should be employed in earning or in saving money.

No false pride, or foolish desire to appear as well as others, should ever tempt a person to live one farthing beyond the income of which he is certain. If you have twenty shillings a week, let nothing but sickness make you spend nineteen. If you have ten shillings, spend but nine; if six shillings only, be careful to spend less than six.

PLAIN REASONING ON AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT.

A WORTHY minister, in cautioning his audience of the tendency of the business, the cares, and the diversions of life, to induce a neglect of the great interests of the soul and eternal things, used the following plain, but certainly sound and argumentative method. "This evening," said he, "we are come to appear before God in worship: we see ourselves here, and see each other; we are sure it is a reality, and not a dream; yet seven years ago this evening was at so vast a distance from us that we scarce knew how to realize it to our thoughts, and make it as it were present: but now, all that long distance is vanished, and this evening is come; those days are all passed, and this hour is upon us. Thus it is in the case of death and judgment. Seven years hence, it is most likely, some one or more of us, and perhaps every one of us, shall appear before the bar of God our Judge; that appointed hour will come, however it seem afar off now; and then it will be as real an appearance as this present hour is, but a much more solemn one; we shall see and feel ourselves there, and know it is not a dream, but an awful reality."

PLANTING SLIPS.

The parts to be chosen of gooseberries, and the different sorts of currants, are the straight middle-sized shoots of the present year, from twelve to eighteen inches in length, though either longer or shorter will do, prune off the slender point and cut them square at the lower end; choose and preserve the four uppermost buds, because from them the future branches proceed. Cut all the other buds smoothly off, and the cuttings are ready for planting. A north aspect, but not too shady, is the best situation. Dig the spot properly; rake the top, and dib in the cuttings by a line stretched across the border at distances of one foot from each other in the row, and at fourteen-inch intervals between the row, putting the cuttings one-third of their whole length into the soil, and pressing the earth as firmly round them as possible. In this state they remain all the winter without any further care, and in the spring they will put forth roots and branches, and soon become handsome little trees. Many hardy shrubs may be propagated at this season exactly in the same way: the aucuba, hydrangea, honeysuckle, cornus, common laurel, tamarisk, &c.; and of trees, we may add the platanus, poplars, willows, elder, &c.

POTATOES.

Planting of Potatoes.—Many, when the land is prepared, will make the whole into drills before they put in any manure; then all the manure before they put in any seed. Then it must of necessity require considerable time betwixt making the drills and covering up the seed, and if the weather prove very hot, the light soil on hill sides, and other places exposed to the sun, becomes heated, and the moisture (the great requisite for seed germinating quickly and healthfully) gets dried up, and thus, unless rain comes quickly, the plants will be very sickly or never come up at all. Now the farmers, as soon as the ground is ready to set the manure out, just

before they intend to plant them, should set the rotten part of the manure on the light soils and those places most exposed to the sun; then cut the potatoes not long before they set them, avoiding exposure either to wind or sun. In beginning to plant, make half a drill, then put in the cuts and manure, and cover them up immediately, and the moisture will be preserved both of the manure and soil, without which, crops can never be healthy or abundant. If the farmers whose crops have failed will follow the above advice, failures to the same extent will not occur again.—*Gardeners' Gazette.*

A VERY successful cultivator, in Scotland, states that it is of great importance never to take sets from potatoes of which any part is decayed. Though the eye may be taken from the other side, which looks good, the whole potato is affected by that which is decayed. No potatoes should be used for sets, which are not such as you would put upon the table. Cultivating potatoes by seed, from plants raised as above, is also recommended.

POTATOES PROPAGATED BY CUTTINGS.—Recent experiments prove that potatoes can be successfully propagated by cuttings or slips from the original stalk without injury to it. A sample of average-sized, edible tubers was produced, thus raised by Mr. Samuel Phelps, of Moyallon. The seed was planted April 1st, and about May 20th, when the parent shoot was about ten inches long, a shoot was detached, planted in riddled-weed compost, shaded from the sun, and watered several times, till it had struck well; after which earthing was put in practice. "The produce of the stalk is, under all circumstances, highly satisfactory, and an occasional leisure hour would not be misspent by our agricultural friends at the proper season in turning the experiment to account; or by seconding it with the combined results of their own research and observation, testing its real value in producing an earlier and a later crop in the same field, from one planting of seed."—*Morning Post.*

EXPERIMENTS ON THE RAPID INCREASE OF POTATOES.—Early in December, three large potatoes were put into a cellar, in a small cask; March 10th, fifteen shoots were taken from them, and dibbled like cabbage-plants, fifteen inches apart; April 16th, twenty-one shoots were taken and planted; May 22nd, twenty-five further shoots were taken from the three potatoes in the cellar and planted as the former—these three potatoes were afterwards eaten. From the above sixty-one shoots, ninety-two pounds' weight of large and excellent potatoes were dug up. To procure potato shoots for the purpose of carrying out this experiment, grounds which have yielded potatoes the preceding year should be examined in the spring; and, if the winter has been mild, the potatoes left in the ground—and numbers remain, however carefully the land may have been cleaned—will be found covered with shoots, which on being planted in the manner described, will produce an excellent crop of potatoes.

In another case, the flowers being cut off as they appeared on the plants, the number of potatoes produced was much greater than where the blossoms had remained untouched. Early in October, the stems and leaves of the plants which had not borne flowers were strong and green; the others yellow, and in a state of decay. The potatoes were dug in October. The plants which had been stripped of flowers, produced (on the same space of ground,) above four times the weight of large potatoes; very few small ones being found. Those on which flowers and fruit had been left, produced but a small number of middling-sized potatoes, with a great number of small ones, from the size of a common filbert to that of a walnut.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

EARLY POTATOES.—Great quantities of early potatoes are raised in Cheshire, by a peculiar process,—transplanting the sets (which should be of the earliest kind) during winter, carefully guarded from the frost, in a

warm place, where they may sprout at least three inches by the beginning of March. As soon after that time as the weather happens to be favourable, they are with the sprout on to be carefully planted in a dry soil in drills, with a small rib of earth between each drill, and the end of the sprout just under the surface of the ground. The plants should be kept covered with straw, or rushes, every night, as long as the frost continues, and uncovered every favourable day.—*Lyson.*

PROLIFIC POTATO.—John Hussard, a labouring man, residing at Fartown, near Huddersfield, planted a small patch of ground, at the usual period, with potatoes. Among others he had one, (a Scotch red,) an only one, and this he planted whole, and separate from the rest, but on the same ground. Upon taking this root up, *six weeks* before the usual time, he was not a little astonished at finding the amazing number of one hundred and twenty-seven good serviceable potatoes, which, when cleared from the mould, weighed upwards of twelve pounds: in addition to this, there were found adhering to the fibrous roots scores of smaller ones, from the size of a walnut downwards. Had the root remained in the ground the full time, little doubt exists but that nearly thirty pounds of potatoes would have been produced from a single plant. To such persons as have not been in the habit of attending much to the quality of their seedlings, we would recommend the experiment of planting the Scotch reds, as anything tending to the increase of this useful article of sustenance must prove highly beneficial.

POULTRY.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR THEIR MANAGEMENT.

FOWLS.—In choosing fowls for breeding, those which have white feathers and white legs are preferred. On the contrary, those of ducks cannot be too dark. The way to have new-laid eggs nearly all the winter, is

to rear a brood of chickens very early in the year, and reserve them for breeding. They will moult, and begin to lay in the autumn, just at the time that the older birds are changing their feathers, and resting for the three months before Christmas. By watching the habits of the fowls, much useful information may be obtained; some hens are inclined to sit, and lay few eggs; others do not appear inclined to sit, but lay an unusual number of eggs. Their inclinations should be followed. When it is not wished that hens should sit, the best plan, and the least cruel, is to put them under coops, in a dark place, giving them plenty of water, and a short allowance of food. If, after three days' confinement, they still continue to cluck when set at liberty, this discipline must be continued another day or two.

A poultry-yard should be as dry as possible, well-drained, paved with gravel upon chalk, if practicable; wet, clayey soils do not suit fowls, small gravel, chalk, dry sand, and ashes should be placed under the shelter of sheds for their use; the gravel, especially, and the chalk assist their digestion; the sand and ashes are essential to their health, which would suffer if they could not dust themselves occasionally. Free access to grass is indispensable, the green herbage, with the grubs, worms, &c., amongst it, form a large portion of their daily food. When first let out in the morning from their roosting-place, if barley be thrown to fowls they hastily pick up a few grains, and then hurry out upon the common, where they hunt about for grubs for an hour or two, return to the farm-yard, finish their barley, drink, the hens proceeding to lay, the pullets to strut and peck about, till towards ten or eleven o'clock, when they sit or lie lazily under cover; then set their feathers in order, dust, shake themselves, again go forth to the common, are afterwards ready for their mid-day feed, again take rest, and having enjoyed a third meal, are preparing to roost, in summer by six, in winter before four o'clock.

Cleanliness is essential to preserving fowls in health. The hen-house should be well furnished with poles of different heights, and at proper distances. It should be lime-washed once or twice a year, swept every week, and often scrubbed with water. It should be defended from the entrance of rats or weasels, and for security locked every night. Foxes are abroad in the early morning, and the heavy dews being bad for poultry, it is best not to let them out too soon. Hens should not be allowed to sit in the month of June, as chickens hatched about that season are liable to attacks of the harvest-bug. The nests for sitting (as well as laying) hens, should be two or three feet from the ground, *not in the fowl-house*, made of clean short straw, never of hay; long straw is inconvenient to them in arranging their nests, and is apt to catch in their feet when they leave them, at the risk of drawing out the eggs. It often happens that sitting hens are annoyed with insects; strict attention to cleanliness, and never allowing a second hen to sit or lay in the same box till it has been thoroughly cleaned, and fresh straw put into it, will obviate this.

With care chickens may be hatched in January, but they require judicious and constant attention. Exposure to cold is less hurtful than damp. Hens should not be allowed to sit later than September. A very fine brood was hatched in that month, and kept in a large dry barn till the chickens were strong enough to bear exposure during a few mid-day hours, when the weather permitted. Chickens should always be left to the mother during the time of hatching, interference only does harm. Some hens are such close sitters that they require for the first day or two to be taken off the nest to feed, once in twenty-four hours.

The best food for chickens are groats, and the most natural drink, water. They should be fed little and often, throwing a few grains of barley every time to the hen; these she splits, and teaches the chickens to pick,

up. As soon as it is observed that they can eat whole barley, the groats may be discontinued. "We attribute the undeviating health of our numerous poultry," says a correspondent, "in a great measure to their being abundantly supplied with the choicest food: *the best barley always*, with a few peas in cold weather, and plenty of pure water given fresh daily, a few cold boiled potatoes, merely to amuse them, and some cabbage, or other leaves, instead of grass, when hot weather may have dried up the juices of that favourite green food. We have tried many kinds of 'food,' amongst others, sun-flower seeds, Indian corn, tail wheat, &c. &c., and must confess that the maize (Indian corn,) invariably obtained the preference with the poultry, when all the four kinds have been thrown to them at the same time. Barley, however, is more easily attainable than Indian corn, which is rarely grown now in this country, and is only to be obtained in London, Liverpool, &c.

"The system of cooping, previously to killing, we are averse to, excepting for two or three days; and then only we would substitute barley-meal for the hard grain, because the creatures are then debarred from the opportunity of picking up the daily quantity of small gravel, which it is necessary for them to swallow in order to digest their food."

Coops of domestic poultry should not be set on grass, as heavy dews frequently prevail, and all damp is very prejudicial to young birds. If they can be admitted to a field or orchard by a small opening in the fence, for a few hours in the day-time, a dry yard will be found the best place for them.

DUCKS.—The most hardy, and the best flavoured, is the large dark variety. Ducks lay eggs only in spring, (unless by chance a second brood is brought out in the autumn) and it is advised that when they have laid more than the required number, they should be watched and allowed to sit. A pond is not necessary for ducks, if a

large shallow tub be sunk in a corner of the farm-yard, so that the old birds may wash and dip themselves; indeed, young ducklings should not be allowed to go to a pond for the first six weeks, as they get cramped if long in the water. Their food when young should be barley-meal made thick, and several saucers of garden-pots, or other shallow vessels, filled with water, placed near their coops. As they become nearly full-grown, one of their three daily meals should be dry oats, thrown into a pan of water. Ducks do not injure a garden by scratching, like chickens.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

GEESE.—Geese can be kept to advantage only where there are green commons; there they are very hardy, long-lived, and profitable to their owners. If well kept, a goose will lay one hundred eggs in the year. Water to swim in is quite unnecessary. You may put four or five of the eggs under a large hen, or nine or ten under a hen turkey; but if under the goose herself, you must feed her well, and regularly, at or near her nest. The young ones should be kept, the first four days, in a warm place, and fed on barley-meal, mixed, if possible, with milk; then they will begin to graze. When you fatten them, give them some sort of corn, Swedish turnips boiled or raw, with corn, carrots, white cabbages, or lettuces.

If the spring be warm, they will be inclined to sit in the open weather of February, when a bundle of straw should be placed in a covered shed, which they will arrange for themselves for a nest. They should early have access to the short grass of a common, of which both young and old eat largely. Soft food at first, and oats and barley in abundance as they increase in size.

GUINEA FOWLS.—It is best to hatch these under a hen: their first food must be very small, even groats should be broken for them. Ants' eggs are a favourite hole nests should be brought for them, with a of the mould in which they are found; this, if

partly thrown within the coop, the hen will scratch and amuse herself, whilst she teaches the chicks to find their own food.

TURKEYS.—Howitt, in his *Book of the Seasons*, says—"It is a common practice to give each young turkey a pepper-corn the first thing; but good judges disapprove of it, and prefer to feed them with chopped docks and oatmeal. It is also very requisite that young turkeys should be supplied with good sharp gravel. Soft or friable sand will not do. The most successful rearers of turkey broods assure me that they found it impossible to keep them from dying in great numbers till they gave them pounded pebbles, since which they seldom lose any.

"Birds swallow their food whole; and it is afterwards ground in the gizzard to enable it to digest. The little pieces of stone help the grinding. In a state of nature, birds always swallow stones, which may be seen in the gizzard of a fowl when it is prepared for being cooked."

Turkeys thrive better left in the nest, than removed as soon as hatched, and wrapped in flannel, as is often done. Food mixed with milk is apt to disagree, and all slop victuals should be avoided.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy*.

POULTRY IN GENERAL.—It is, perhaps, seldom that fowls can be kept conveniently about a cottage; but when they can, three, four, or half-a-dozen hens, to lay in *winter*, when the wife is at home the greater part of the time, are worth attention. They would require but little room, might be bought in November, sold in April, and six of them with proper care might be made to clear, every week, the price of a gallon of flour. If the labour were great, I should not think of it; but it is *none;* and I am for neglecting nothing in the way of pains in order to insure a hot dinner every day in winter, when the man comes home from work. Nothing lawfully within our power ought to be neglected in order to

insure comfort at home; for without comfort there is *no home.*

Martin Doyle, in his *Hints to Small Holders*, says,—"A few cocks and hens, if they be prevented from scratching in the garden, are a useful stock about a cottage, the warmth of which causes them to lay eggs in winter. You constantly want salt (and I hope soap) and candles in winter; now, a few eggs," sold or "taken to the hucksters, procure you these articles in exchange." In Scotland, the Highland Society has given prizes to those cottagers who have been most successful in the rearing and management of poultry; and a prize has been offered for the best essay on the means of improving the supply of fattened poultry for market towns. In the counties of Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Cambridge, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Berks, the rearing of poultry for the London market is thought worthy of attention by considerable farmers. The present Earl Spencer, a few years ago, instituted a poultry show at Chapel Brampton, in Northamptonshire, in 1829. The best turkey weighed 20 lbs. 4 oz., capon, 7 lbs. 14½ oz.; pullet, 6 lbs. 3½ oz.; goose, 18 lbs. 2½ oz.; couple of ducks, 15lbs. 10 oz. But, perhaps, the cottager may direct his attention more profitably to the production of eggs than to the fattening of poultry. The Poland breed will be found most valuable to him. Their colour is a shining black, with white feathers on the top of the head; they are called "everlasting layers," and so seldom are inclined to sit, that their eggs are often set under hens of a different breed.—*Working Man's Companion for* 1838.

[OBSERVATION.—Would it not be desirable to offer a breed of these fowls as cottagers' prizes, or at least to make this optional, "Fowls or ——," according to circumstances? The season at which the above states hens for laying should be purchased would not be unsuitable.]

EGGS.—The Irish peasantry, whose poultry occupy at night a corner of the cabin, have them lay very early

in consequence of the warmth of their night quarters; and there can be no doubt that this is the chief secret for having new-laid eggs in winter, paying at the same time due attention to proteet the hens from wet, and to have them young, or at least early in moulting.

Boiled Food for Poultry.—It is the custom of poultry keepers in France to cook the grain given to fowls which they intend to fatten, boiling it in water till soft enough to be easily bruised between the fingers, the boiling causing it to burst. The results of experiments made as to feeding poultry on various sorts of grain show that any grain which is cheapest may be used, excepting rye, where other sorts are to be had on reasonable terms. Other experiments made as to the economy of using boiled grain show that whenever the price of maize, barley, or wheat, renders them eligible as food for poultry, these grains are most profitable boiled instead of dry. Tares, beans, and peas, when at a low price, are very good for poultry, and should be boiled. Potatoes, carrots, turnips, parsneps, Jerusalem artichokes, and similar roots, boiled and mashed up with pollard or oatmeal, make an excellent variety, and answer well for feeding poultry in the evening, when grain has been given in the morning. Care must be taken not to give boiled food too hot. Potatoes are a cheap, excellent, and wholesome food, but must be broken a little, and should be given warm, as they do not like them cold. Raw carrots and parsneps, rasped or cut very small, and mixed with pollard or oatmeal, are very wholesome, but fowls will not eat them if thrown down whole. Bran or pollard is not a good substitute for grain, though useful to mix as above with other food.

Mr. Wakefield, near Liverpool, kept a large stock of turkeys, geese, hens, and ducks, all in the same place, and though young turkeys are considered so difficult to bring up, reared a great number of them every season, with little or no trouble. He had nearly an acre, enclosed with a fence

only six or seven feet high, formed of slabs, set on end, or any thinnings of fir or other trees, split and put close together, fastened by a rail near the top, and another near the bottom, and pointed sharp, to prevent the poultry flying over, for they never attempt this, although it is so low. Within this fence were places done up slightly, but well secured from wet, for each sort of poultry, and also a pond or stream of water running through it. Mr. Wakefield's poultry were fed almost entirely on potatoes boiled by steam, and thrived astonishingly well. The quantity of dung that is made in this poultry place is also worthy of attention, and when it is cleaned out, a thin paring of the surface is at the same time taken off, which makes a valuable compost for the purpose of manure.

FATTENING POULTRY FOR THE TABLE.—Keep the fowls in a pen perfectly dark, except one ray of light admitted through a small hole, so as to fall directly on the vessel containing the food. The food must be common rice, thoroughly soddened, penetrated, and swelled by steeping in milk, and keeping all night in a warm place. The poultry should have as much of this rice as they choose to eat, and in one week will have attained their full perfection; therefore they should not be kept longer, and a succession should be arranged accordingly. —*Magazine of Domestic Economy.* (Given on the authority of one of the largest and best inns in the kingdom.)

PRAYER.

EVEN multitudes of sincere Christians do not sufficiently appreciate the value of prayer, which is never unattended with success. "Ask," says the Saviour, "and ye shall receive." Let us look and see in what *real* prayer consists, for the knee, eyes, and tongue bear the least share in prayer. Unlike some other pious exercises, in prayer the aspirant comes into the immedi-

ate presence of God; he comes to offer up his desires to God. The utmost reverence will attend the mind so attuned. Knowing before whom he appears as a petitioner, his own character will be present to his thoughts and the excellencies of God; his own character as a sinner, and the immaculate holiness of the great Creator. In this hallowed employment, he will feel himself lifted above earth. He will adore his Maker, his Redeemer, and his Sanctifier. He will with sorrow confess and deplore his offences against such great and unmerited goodness, of which he is the recipient, and beg for mercy, freely offered through the atonement of his all-powerful intercessor, who must be his advocate, for "No man cometh unto the Father but by him." Prayer should always be attended with thanksgiving, which is acceptable to God. Earnestness, not eloquence, must mark our prayers, and what great reward attends such feelings of devotion let those explain, if they can, who have drawn nigh to their heavenly Parent. Such is prayer. Let each ask his own heart—Do I pray?

PRUDENCE AND IMPRUDENCE.

SUPPOSE a couple enter the marriage state who have never practised economy in the expenditure of their earnings. The husband may perhaps be in the receipt of good wages; but, without good management, they may easily be dissipated, and yet fail to procure many needful comforts. From the evidence of a shopkeeper, who lived in a neighbourhood almost exclusively inhabited by working men—which evidence is printed in the Report of the Poor Law Commissioners—we have learned many circumstances which prove how frequently persons waste the precious results of their labour.

For instance, they are accustomed to send every day for a quarter of an ounce of tea for breakfast. To estimate their loss by this mode of purchasing, it must be recollected, that in a pound of tea they have to pay the shopkeeper for the labour of weighing sixty-four quanti-

ties instead of one. To this loss might be added their own loss of time in running to and from the shop sixty-four times instead of once, and the additional quantity of paper used in wrapping up the tea. The paper which will wrap up a pound of tea will only wrap up sixteen quarter-ounces; consequently the purchaser of sixty-four quarter-ounces must pay extra for the wrappers of forty-eight quarter-ounces. The labouring man who makes his purchases in this manner may be considered to pay not less than 6*d.* per lb. extra—the value of a pound or a pound and a half of meat—for every pound of the low-priced tea he purchases. Nor is this the only loss. He is accustomed to consume the whole quantity purchased, though a less quantity might often suffice; all goes into the pot; as he will not leave, or as he calls it, 'waste' so small a quantity. A pint of beer is sent for, when two-thirds of a pint would suffice: a pint not being sufficient, an extra pint is sent for, when a third or two-thirds of a pint would suffice; and so it is with all other commodities.

Should this system render the wife unable to make both ends meet, she will perhaps have recourse to the pawnbroker, as an expedient by which they may get on to the end of the week. The poor are generally little aware of the enormous price which they pay for such a trifling accommodation, but the following table presents the case in its true light:—

A loan of 3*d.*, if redeemed the same day, pays annual interest at the rate of

		5200	per cent.; if weekly		866	per cent.
4*d.*	„	3900	„	„	650	„
6*d.*	„	2600	„	„	433	„
9*d.*	„	1733	„	„	288	„
1*s.*	„	1300	„	„	216	„

The final consequences probably are, that the husband finding his comforts at home diminished, begins to seek what he thinks pleasures abroad, and gradually forms

habits which dissipate his means, and rob him of his health and strength. His employers soon cease to value him, and his career towards misery and ruin is swift and sure.

Let us next take a couple, who, by wisely deferring the period of marriage until they have made a provision for many of its attendant expenses, have saved 80*l.* between them. This is not an improbable case, as it can be done in nine years by a saving of 3*s.* per week. They can supply their home with all those plain and substantial accommodations which administer to their real comforts. By making large purchases of such articles as are in daily use, and paying for them always in ready money, they not only get better articles, but actually "make their money go further." They will thus be well fed, and comfortably and respectably clothed and lodged, while the thriftless couple, with higher means, are wretched and miserable. If the possessor of a capital of 80*l.* can sustain himself by his labour, without withdrawing either the interest or any part of the principal, this sum at 5 per cent. interest, will be doubled in fourteen years. This is a higher rate of interest than can be at present commanded by the capitalist, but it shows how capital accumulates. Occasionally, however, whenever an opportunity presents itself, the possessor of a few pounds even may increase them by some small purchase which he has *certain* means of selling to advantage. One other means of employing his savings should not be forgotten, and this is the noblest use of a father's and mother's early economy; it is to procure their children an useful and suitable education. With the advantages which that will confer, and those still greater arising from the inculcation of virtuous principles in early life, the future advancement and happiness of a child may be safely predicted; but economy is the means by which this desirable end will be most certainly attained.—*Working Man's Year Book.*

PUBLIC WORSHIP.

WHEN we see thousands disregarding the public worship of God,—some from thoughtlessness, others through an indiscriminating apprehension of being rendered the dupes of priestcraft, under the denomination of religion; and because they have taken up, as they consider, a well-founded disgust to such, are induced to rob the Creator of his just due,—I say, when we with sorrow observe such mistaken and miserable conduct, which is laying them open to the assaults of the arch-enemy of souls, we would arouse our fellow-immortals to a sense of their danger by the following considerations:—First, Do you not think, that God, who instituted public worship, had a right to dictate such homage from his obliged creatures, and consequently to punish its neglect? Second, Is he not, by the use of such means preparing us for still nobler and more generous services in the upper world? And lastly, An appeal is made to your own experience, whether such omission is not rendering you more incautious of offending Him whom you profess to believe is the Governor of the world; less disposed to think of or hold any intercourse with him; to seek to curb the evil propensities of your nature, or to care after excellence?

PUNCTUALITY

METHOD is the very hinge of business; and there is no method without punctuality. Punctuality is important because it promotes the peace and good temper of a family; the want of it not only infringes on necessary duty, but sometimes excludes this duty. The calmness of mind which it produces is another advantage of punctuality. A disorderly man is always in a hurry: he has no time to speak to you because he is going elsewhere; and, when he gets there, he is too late for his business, or he must hurry away to another before he can finish it. Punctuality gives weight to character. "Such a man has made an appointment."—"Then I know

he will keep it." And this generates punctuality in you; for, like other virtues, it propagates itself. Servants and children must be punctual when the head of the family is so.—Appointments, indeed, become debts. I owe you punctuality, if I have made an appointment with you, and have no right to throw away your time, if I do my own.—*Christian Almanac.*

TRUE RELIGION.

SURELY we should be far better employed in watching the evil tendencies of our own hearts, in measuring our conduct by the word of God, and the example of Christ, than by settling the comparative merits of certain persons and certain opinions. To echo the language of piety, to talk of principles and feelings, is extremely easy: it is one thing to walk through an armoury, and explain the use of the sword, and shield, and helmet; and another, to buckle them on for use. In portraying characters as examples, I think it is beneficial to display Christianity in its regulating, practical effects; restraining the temper, subduing the passions, and controlling, by its hallowed influence, the desires, wishes, and hopes of the heart; teaching us, in short, not only to think rightly, and suffer meekly, but how to live as well as how to die.—*Cottagers' Monthly Visitor.*

SIMPLE REMEDIES.

For a Broken Chilblain.—Take a small quantity of fullers' earth, dry it thoroughly in an oven, mix it with a sufficient quantity of boiling water to make it into a paste, and when you are going to use it, moisten it with a few drops of sweet oil.

Ear-Ache.—Tooth-Ache.—A flannel-bag filled with camomile flowers, and wrung out of boiling water, and applied as hot as it can be borne to the ear or face, will sometimes give relief. Two bags should be used; and as soon as one grows cold, another quite hot should replace it. This application should be continued for half an hour

or twenty minutes. The bowels should be kept open. In violent inflammation of the ear, medical advice ought to be called in, as serious consequences may follow from it. The tooth-ache is sometimes relieved by a piece of tobacco applied to the tooth, if it causes a good deal of spitting. Carbonate of soda laid upon the tooth will sometimes be of service—as will also a piece of cotton, dipped in equal parts of laudanum and sal volatile, and put into the decayed tooth. In some cases a small piece of nitre will ease the pain. Lancing the gums has frequently given relief. Hot water, and in other cases cold water, will be of service if held in the mouth two or three minutes. At night the feet may be put into warm water, and a table-spoonful of spirits of mindererus, with ten or twelve drops of paregoric elixir, may be taken when in bed; the face should be well wrapped up in flannel.—*Ten Minutes' Advice to Labourers.*

Hot Water is an excellent gargle for a bad sore throat or quinsy; will often remove tooth-ache, or pains in the gums, by holding it in your mouth and often renewing it. In bruises, or after blows, by fomenting, or placing the part in it as hot as it can be borne as soon as possible, it will remove stiffness and discoloration.

Linseed Tea for Coughs.—Pour two quarts of boiling water upon an ounce of linseed, and two drachms of liquorice root; let it stand six hours.

Poultices.—Put half a pint of hot water into a basin, add as much crumb of bread as the water will cover, and put a plate on the basin for about ten minutes, stir the bread about in the water, or, if necessary, chop it a little with the edge of a knife, and drain the water by holding the knife on the top of the basin, but do not press the bread. Linseed poultice is made by mixing linseed meal into a paste with hot water.

Cure for Rheumatism.—Rub dry flour of mustard upon the part affected, holding the part at the same time before the fire; give it a good rubbing for some time sufficient to bring out a rash on the skin, and it

will relieve the pain. One rubbing is generally found sufficient. This is a Scotch old woman's recipe for rheumatism, and seldom fails in effecting a complete and very speedy cure.

WHOLESOME PREPARATIONS FOR THE SICK.—*Mutton Broth.*—Take off the skin and fat of 2lbs. of neck of mutton; put it into a saucepan with two quarts of water; boil, skim, and cover it closely; and then simmer for an hour. Have ready a clean cloth, dipped in cold water, and pour the broth, as hot as possible, through it. This is the only way of clearing it from *all* fat or grease, which is often of consequence.

Beef Tea.—Put a pound of gravy beef, sliced, into a saucepan, with a quart of water; boil and skim it, and simmer for half an hour; strain it, as above, and season with salt. A few berries of black pepper are sometimes put in with the beef.

Barley Water.—Wash a quarter of a pound of pearl barley, cover it with water, and boil it; pour off the water, and add three pints of soft water (*boiling*) to the barley; boil it an hour and a half, and strain for use. Add to the barley about one pint and a half of water, and boil as before; strain, and when cold, add to the former. Sweeten with sugar, and flavour with lemon-peel or juice, as may be directed.

Arrowroot Jelly.—A dessert spoonful of arrowroot, mixed smooth into a paste with cold water; pour on it half a pint of boiling water, stirring it briskly, and boil a few minutes, when it will be a clear, smooth jelly. It may be flavoured with sugar, lemon-peel, or juice, as may be directed; or milk may be used instead of water.

CULTIVATION OF RHUBARB.

A plant more productive, salubrious, profitable, and expressly suited to the purposes of the cottager, can scarcely be found in the entire list of vegetable productions. A few years only have elapsed since the

green rhubarb was cultivated for tarts, and held in very slight estimation: but since the introduction of the larger, or giant varieties, the demand has increased with surprising rapidity.

Let the ground be prepared precisely as for asparagus beds. Select clean offsets, with two or three bold eyes; the first week in March is a very suitable season. The plants should be set firmly in the soil, five feet apart, or five feet one way and four feet another, giving a free watering to each, to settle the soil among the roots. Dry weather, an open condition of the ground, and a temperate, unfrosty state of the air, should be preferred. When the growth becomes established, the ground must be kept free from weeds; and if dry weather supervene, water ought to be freely given around the roots two or three times, with intervals of four or five days.

Not a leaf or stalk ought to be touched during the first year; and in autumn, when the leaves are all decayed, they should be laid in little trenches formed along the centre of the space between the rows, sprinkled with a handful or two of salt, and covered with the earth that had been digged out. Thus the plant will itself furnish a portion of the manure that will annually be required. As winter approaches, a coating of well-decomposed stable manure, or leaves, or a mixture of both, two or three inches deep, should be laid round each plant to the extent of two feet; and in the open weather of February the whole bed must be forked over.

As a proof of the excessive productiveness of the *Scarlet Goliath*, one of the giant varieties, it may be mentioned, that in the second week of March, 1831, twelve plants were set in ground prepared for asparagus. In June the leaves met, and the whole plot was covered. In 1832 the plants yielded profusely: many leaves measured above a yard and a half over the surface, the foot-stalks being an inch and a half broad, and from two to three feet long. The outside leaves were, as required

for use, stripped off by an oblique pull, not cut; the family was amply supplied till July and August, and yet the plants increased: the neighbours also were supplied with leaves throughout the summer, and with offset plants in the succeeding spring. During the two past seasons the root stocks increased to such a size that, when it became needful to remove some, it required a barrow to contain the weighty mass that was raised, after great labour, from the soil. If any one try the experiment in favourable soil, and with anything like judicious management, he will scarcely fail to discover that the growth and production of the plant will exceed every demand that can be justly made upon it—Mr. Towers, *Author of the Domestic Gardener's Manual.*

RICH AND POOR.

Poor men sometimes think, what a fine thing it would be if all the property of the rich were equally divided amongst them, and that in future no one should be allowed to grow rich; but they little consider what would be the consequences of such a measure. In the first place, they must begin by robbery, as no one could expect that the richer people would willingly part with their property; and in the next place they would find, after this iniquity had been committed, and an equal division of the whole wealth of the nation had been made, that each person's share would be a very small one. A man would still, as before, be obliged to work for his living, for food and clothes could not be had without somebody's labour; and he must work hard too, for every article must then be produced by hand-labour, as all the large manufactories would have been destroyed in consequence of the ruin of the masters of them, and what could be bought before for a shilling, would probably cost five times as much, or more, after the destruction of machinery.

In a few months' time, those people who were stronger, and had better head-pieces, would have become

richer, and a fresh robbery must now take place, that the riches might be again divided; in short, the whole nation would become a set of robbers, and neither life nor property would be secure for a moment; every man would have a right to thrust his hand into his neighbour's pocket whenever he had earned sixpence more than himself. Consider, too, that all those persons who have been reduced to distress, by sickness or bad crops, must die of starvation, as nobody would be able, however willing, to relieve them. Is it possible that such people could thrive, living in open defiance of the laws both of God and civilized man? It is not possible; for there never was an instance since the world began, of a nation's prospering and of the poor enjoying the comforts and necessaries of life, where property was not respected.

It should be also remembered, that except a rich man locks up his money, a very rare case indeed, he pays away his income to servants, labourers, and tradespeople, who again lay out the money in food and clothes for their families; so that, in fact, a division is at present made of his property amongst the poor, though not indeed an equal one; but all forced attempts at equalizing property have ever failed in producing the end designed, and must ever fail, for it is as much a law of nature that some should be rich and some should be poor, as that some should be tall and some should be short, or that some should be sickly and others should be healthy.—*Ten Minutes' Advice to Labourers.*

ROSES.

It is recommended that roses should be removed from their places about once in three years. The general notion has been that plants and flowers, though they spread much at first, after a time cease to flourish, because they have drunk up and exhausted all such parts of the surrounding nourishment as suits them, so that they can no longer flourish *there*, whilst plants of a different nature might do well; and that hence comes the

necessity of transplanting flowers, and changing vegetable crops. The *present* opinion is, that all plants throw off a sort of unwholesome matter from their roots, which in time serves to poison them: the practice, however, is to be the same, whatever may be the theory; there is the same need of transplanting flowers, and changing the crops of vegetables.—*Cottager's Monthly Visitor.*

MANY of the climbing and training sorts of roses, and particularly the evergreen varieties of these, are well adapted for undergrowths in open woods: but in this case, the timber trees should not be so close as to shut out the rays of the sun from the roses. These also should be allowed in some places to climb to the tops of the highest trees, where they will flower profusely, and in a few years hang down, occasionally forming festoons from one tree to another, in a manner singularly beautiful and picturesque. The different varieties of *Rosa arvensis*, especially the *Ayrshire* and *evergreen roses*, are particularly well adapted for this purpose.—LOUDON'S *Arboretum.*

RUST.

To preserve hedge-bills, scythes, sickles, and other steel instruments from rusting, wipe them quite dry, heat them sufficiently to melt common bees-wax, and then rub them over with it, so as to cover the whole of the steel with a thin coating. The wax completely excluding the air, prevents any decomposition from taking place on the surface of the steel, and when the instrument is wanted for use, the wax is readily removed by the application of heat.

THE SABBATH.

IT is no rash assertion, that from that holy institution, the Sabbath, have accrued to man more knowledge of his God, more instruction in righteousness, more guidance of his affections, and more consolation of his spirit,

than from all other means which have been devised in the world to make him wise and virtuous. We cannot fully estimate the effects of the Sabbath, unless we were once deprived of it. Imagination cannot picture the depravity which would gradually ensue, if *time* were thrown into one promiscuous field, without those heaven-directed beacons to rest and direct the passing pilgrim. Man would then plod through a wilderness of being, and one of the avenues, which now admits the light that will illuminate his path, would be perpetually closed.—*Bishop Dehon.*

SAINT MONDAY.

A SAINT'S day is considered a holyday. These days were formerly considered as *holy* days, in the true sense of the word,—days for such holy considerations as were suggested by the lives of those godly saints who had adorned the profession of the gospel, and frequently died martyrs to it. As the church in former times appointed particular services for such days, those who were very anxious to partake of the benefits of religious worship laid aside their usual work for the sake of joining in the services of the church. When it became a custom to lay aside work on those days, religious persons devoted the time to a religious purpose, but idle and profligate people made these days opportunities of dissipation and sinful pleasures; and this they called making holyday, so that the meaning of a holy day is now quite changed from its original purpose. If a man can afford to allow himself one day in a week for rest from hard labour, and will apply that rest to a good purpose, we should rejoice to see him having this indulgence, and enjoying it in the bosom of his family. But there is now a custom among many of the workmen in London and other great towns, to stay away from work every Monday, and they profanely call this day "Saint Monday." They are generally a very drunken set of fellows who do this, and the Monday's drunkenness often makes them unfit for work during

other days of the week. Many of them regularly continue this folly on Tuesday also. But supposing a man spends only *Monday* in this way, to say nothing of the sin and the danger of drunkenness, the following anecdote will show the folly of thus wasting one day in every week:—

John Willis and Samuel Binns worked for a while in the same tailor's shop in London, but afterwards Willis left, and went to another shop. Binns always kept what he called Saint Monday: he lost three shillings by giving up his day's work, and he spent two shillings on the same day in drink. Many of his friends spent a great deal more, but Binns was not one of the worst. For a long time he had seen nothing of his former friend Willis, but one day he happened to overtake him in the street: they were going the same way, and they walked together and got into conversation; they were, in fact, going to the same place—to a vestry meeting; but Binns was going as a beggar to see whether he could get any relief, as he was out of work; and Willis was going in the character of a rate-payer, and a respectable inhabitant, to sit at the board. Willis, however, was not proud, and he carried on a conversation with his old acquaintance as they went on their way.

It soon came out that Willis was well off in the world, and Binns very poor. Binns asked Willis how he had got his money, and whether somebody had left him a fortune. He said, "No," that he had not received a single farthing beyond his wages, which were just the same as Binns'. "But then," he added, "it is not the wages you get that makes the difference, it is the way of managing them—*that's* the point! I never go to the alehouse, or the gin-shop. I don't go without my beer either; but it's all in moderation, and I have it at home, and the more I stay with my wife and children the better I like my home, and the better it is for us all. We have everything that we can want, but I never throw away money after what is useless; and so I have made

good savings, and can keep my wife always in comfort, and well clad, and can bring up my children as a man ought to do."

"But how could you make all these savings?" said Binns.

"Why," replied Willis, "it would hardly be worth while to tell you how soberness, and steadiness, and care, make money mount up; for I doubt you would hardly set about the business; but I will just tell you one of the ways, and you may judge of the rest. You remember that you and I used to keep Saint Monday together when we worked with Master Smart, and with the loss of three shillings for the day's wages, and two shillings that we used to spend, here was five shillings. Now in seven years, this sum, put into the Savings' Bank, will of itself amount to *one hundred pounds*; so that you see if you had done nothing but give up Saint Monday from the time that we last met, you would now have had 100*l.* in your possession; and I know you would have had a good deal more too, for when a man once learns the value of care and management, he brings them to bear upon all his habits and ways of living. But come with me after the vestry is over, and whether you get anything or not there, I shall be glad to give you a bit of supper, and I expect you will find that my wife can make things as comfortable as any man's wife in my station need to do."

Binns did not get much from the vestry, for there were several men there who worked hard and lived by their industry, and they said that they saw no reason why they should work hard and give their earnings for the sake of helping those that would not take care of themselves. He went home, however, with Willis, and had his supper, and he found everything in such order, and the conversation of the family such, as proved that they were not only prudent people, but well instructed and pious people. I hope his visit may be of use to him.
—*Cottager's Monthly Visitor.*

THE DAY OF SALVATION.

THE whole period of time's passing revolutions is the day of salvation,—from the hour of Adam's first sin, when his judgment was first suspended and his respite announced, to that day when the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, is the day of God's mercy. Time, when reviewed in eternity, will be looked at as the day of salvation; and, oh! human life is to every man the day of salvation, and the true improvement of life is to secure an interest in the salvation that is in Jesus Christ, with eternal glory: a life spent without this is a life lost, a life abused, a life prostituted from its true intent, and employed to the dishonour of the Creator and Redeemer. Happy is he who appreciates its value, and improves it to his own salvation.

SAVINGS' BANKS.

LET no poor person forget that there is within his reach a Savings' Bank, in which he may deposit, in the time of health and strength, a provision for the time of sickness and decay. Suppose a young person at the age of twenty was to place eighteen pence a week in the Savings' Bank, instead of spending it in drinking or in folly, the amount saved at the end of one year would be 3*l.* 18*s.*; to which, if he added two shillings, he would be entitled to interest on four pounds. Let him thus add four pounds every year to his savings, and continue to do so till the age of forty,—that is to say, for twenty years; at that time he will find, that though he has placed but 80*l.* in the Savings' Bank, he has become entitled to upwards of 120*l.*; in fact, that the interest (which he has not taken out, but put back into the bank as it became due to him) has amounted to above half as much as the whole sum he had saved. Surely a consideration of the above will induce many to acquaint themselves with the advantages of the Savings' Bank.

The deposits in these excellent institutions in 1837,

according to official returns, amounted to twenty millions, five hundred thousand pounds; being an increase of nine hundred thousand pounds over the deposits of 1836.

A CONVERSATION ABOUT SAVINGS' BANKS.

THOMAS.—"You know, John, that six or seven years ago I left our old place, because I thought I could get better wages, and I wanted to save a little money. I found, however, that I could not get any more, and then any money I might save must be by my own carefulness, not by high pay. This plan I determined to try, and though I have now only one shilling a week more than I had then, I and Betty, with the help of little Tom, and Mary, the little girl, have contrived to put by till we have now got 50*l.* in the Savings' Bank at W———."

JOHN.—"Fifty pounds in the Savings' Bank! Why, what do you mean?"

THOMAS.—I mean what I say; and I can tell you another thing, that if you had never gone near the "Old Serpent," you might have done the same, and you would not now be grumbling about the new poor laws and the hard times. You may shake your head, but it is as true as you are there, and I will prove it to you. What I say is this,—you have swallowed down that throat of your's since we last met more than 40*l.*, which you might have been worth at this moment.

JOHN.—Why, you are mad.

THOMAS.—No, I am not; and I will go on to prove all I have said. Now let me ask, how much do you generally spend every Monday at the "Old Serpent," and at the sign of the "Forbidden Tree," on the road.

JOHN.—Not above two or three shillings at the most.

THOMAS.—How long is it since we met?

JOHN.—I take it, about six or seven years.

THOMAS.—Well, what I say and maintain is this, that if, instead of putting those two or three shillings down your throat, you had put them into the Savings' Bank, you would now have been worth 40*l.*, and if your wife

had only laid out the money in the Savings' Bank, which she has spent in finery and nonsense, and gingerbread for the children, I dare say you would now have been worth 60*l.* or 70*l.*, between you.

JOHN.—Impossible!

THOMAS.—Listen to me, and I will tell you what I know about it. I have in my pocket a printed paper, which my master gave me some time ago, which tells us what a man may do for himself by putting by in the Savings' Bank. Now, look here; one shilling a week will, with interest, at the end of seven years, amount to 20*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*; and two shillings a week, for seven years, to double that sum; one shilling a week for ten years, will, with the interest allowed thereon, amount to 30*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.*; two shillings a week for the same time, to 60*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*; three shillings a week, to 91*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*; four shillings a week, to 121*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*; five shillings a week, to 151*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*; six shillings a week, to 182*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*; seven shillings a week, to 212*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*; and if seven shillings a week were to accumulate with interest for twenty years, it would amount to 510*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* Now, John, these few instances will show you at once what you may do by putting by in the Savings' Bank; and I think I was right when I said that if you placed two shillings of the money in the Savings' Bank which you have put down your throat since we last met, you would now have been worth more than 40*l.*; besides, John, if it should please God to take you away, you might leave all your savings to your family; and you would be more pleased to do this than to have them taken to that workhouse, I mean that house which you call a prison.

JOHN.—Well, Thomas, that is very true; I should not like to think that my poor old woman, and Bet, and little Jem, and the rest of them, should go there after I am dead and gone. But there is one thing which puzzles me. What do the gentlemen get who have established the bank in this town? They would never set up this bank unless they got something by it.

THOMAS.—Indeed, John, you are much mistaken. I used to think as you do now, when I went to the "Old Serpent;" but I have learnt better, and can tell you that these gentlemen do it for the purpose of serving their industrious but poorer neighbours, and for no other reason, and that they give their time and labour for nothing; besides, I can tell you too that your money is as safe in the Savings' Bank as in the Bank of England; for these gentlemen attend and see that all is right. The money is always sent to the Bank of England, and is laid out in the government funds, and there it must be safe as long as old England stands, and I hope that will be as long as you and I live, and a good deal longer. When you put your money into the bank, the gentlemen give you a book with your name in it, and they write in that book the amount you deposit, and what you draw out of the bank; for you must know you may draw out whenever you want part of your money, without giving any reason for it to anybody.

JOHN.—Well, but Master Thomas, why not let one's master keep it, or lend it to some friend or neighbour, as well as putting it into these banks?

THOMAS.—Look here now, Master John; do you remember, when you and I were boys, one Squire Hearty, of Tophill?

JOHN.—Yes, to be sure I do, and a great man he was in those days, farmed the whole parish, and a great deal more.

THOMAS.—Well, who would ever have thought of his failing? and yet he did, and was obliged to sell off and quit the country, and he had in his hands the money of many a poor man. Poor old Trustall, of Sheep-street, and his wife, went to the workhouse. Old Molly Barm lost every farthing she had, and died of a broken heart, and many such like things happened. Well then, there
rs Bucking, the washer-woman, by the Turnpike,
old a cottage and lent her money to Tom Swindle,
ot one farthing will she ever see of that.

JOHN.—Aye, but she is more wise now, for she has sold the other cottage, and folks say she has put the money into the Savings' Bank.

THOMAS.—Well, I am glad to hear it, for now her money is safe, and she will get interest for it every year into the bargain. Now, John, be prevailed upon to begin, if it is only with a shilling. My little ones have all got something in the bank, and have their banking books, which tell them exactly what they are worth. Tom, who is a bit of a scholar, makes out that by the time he is fifteen he shall have enough to put himself out apprentice; little Molly, whom you remember, and who is as saucy as ever, says that if she can put by sixpence a week, she shall have enough to buy a cow and a pig for her husband when she is married. And though this is a joke among us over the fire at night, yet if they go on as they have begun, they will have enough to do what they say, with God's blessing. I should like to show you my cottage and my family some Sunday, and leave you to judge which is the best, the way I now live, or the way I used to live. Come over to us some Sunday morning, and go to church with us, and see how we spend the sabbath. You do not know how happy we all are, praised be God for all his mercies.

What effect all this had upon John is not stated, but if he was so foolish as to neglect it, let us hope that our readers will not imitate him.

SCARLET RUNNERS.

COTTAGERS sometimes grow these as dwarf kinds, without encouraging them to climb; but they do not succeed so well. "I planted the beans at the edge of a narrow border, under a south wall, tying cords from the top of the wall to the wooden bordering: the plants thus required no trouble to train, winding themselves round the cords, and from one fastening to another, and bearing so prolifically, that about twenty feet of border

supplied a large family with more than they could consume during the summer and autumn. Many people dislike to eat the scarlet bean on account of the roughness of the pod; it ought to be gathered very young, and then its flavour is far superior to the dwarf kind; it is sweeter and more pulpy."—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

SEA-KALE, OR COLE WORT.

SEA-KALE is propagated by slips, pieces of the root, or seeds; the latter seems the preferable method. A bed may be prepared in any open part of the garden, composed chiefly of sea or river sand, twelve or fifteen inches deep. Sow the seed from the middle of March to the end of April, dropping it along the middle of the bed in patches two or three feet from each other, with three or four good seeds in each place. The crowns of the young plants should be kept as low and near together as possible, for the purpose of covering them with pots, or otherwise, when necessary. Towards winter (having kept them free from weeds and decayed leaves during the summer) throw a little earth or sand over them, and next year the young eatable shoots will come through this layer. The bed should not be cut much the second year; but if the plants are strong and healthy, a few dishes may be taken without injury. To obtain plants to last eight or ten years, and still produce good sprouts, prepare another bed early in the spring of the second year, where the seedlings may be planted in ridges, and at a distance of two feet and a half from each other. The strongest plants should be selected, and their crowns set two inches below the surface of the bed. Sea-kale may be raised in any warm corner of a kitchen. Good healthy roots must be potted in light earth or sand, so as to cover them, and another pot of the same size turned over the first. In whatever way sea-kale is grown, it must never touch coal ashes, or anything that can give it a disagreeable taste. The soil *must* be poor.

A cottager, with little expense or trouble, may have a dish of sea-kale for many weeks throughout the spring.

VEGETATIVE POWER OF SEA-SAND.

A FEW days since, a quantity of sea-sand was carried out of Morecambe Bay, about a mile from the Furness Shore. It had been less than an hour previously covered by the tide a considerable depth, and contained several cockles and other shell-fish. It was immediately placed in pits or beds, fifteen inches in depth, and sown without mixture or admixture of any kind, just in the state it was when taken from the bay—with wheat, barley, peas, mustard, cress, and radish-seed. In five days the mustard, cress, and radish-seed had sprouted, and began to vegetate, having thrown out a considerable length of root, whilst (what is more extraordinary) the shell-fish were quite alive!

An ordinary flower-pot filled with sea-sand, and sowed with almost any kind of seeds, would at once put the matter to the test. Common hay-seeds sowed in October last in beds of sand similar to the above, and treated exactly in the same way, have now grown to the extraordinary height of 3 feet 6½ inches; some wheat, now in ear, (sown about Christmas last,) 3 feet 9 inches; barley, ditto, 3 feet 3 inches; peas, sown in April last, (in full flower,) 3 feet. The farmers all around the Bay of Morecambe, in forming composts for their wheat and barley crops, use of sea-sand about twenty-six carts (small one-horse carts); lime, about four carts; manure, ten carts, per statute acre. Why use so great a quantity of sea-sand if it does not possess very considerable vegetative power?—*Morning Post, 27th August*, 1839.

SEED BEDS OF WHEAT.

ALLOTMENT tenants are earnestly recommended by one of their best friends to make seed beds of wheat, and then plant out the plants four inches apart, in rows at different distances, as four inches, six inches, nine inches, and see which answers best.

SICKNESS.

In time of sickness the kind offices of a good neighbour are peculiarly valuable. "Better is a neighbour that is at hand than a brother that is afar off." The kindness of *such* a neighbour has been thus vividly and beautifully described: "Oh, I love the soul that must and will do good; the kind creature who runs to the sick bed, I might rather say bedstead, of a poor neighbour, wipes away the moisture of a fever, smooths the clothes, beats up the pillow, fills the pitcher, sets it within reach, administers perhaps only a cup of cold water, but does it in the true spirit of a disciple of Christ, and becomes a fellow-worker with Christ in the administration of happiness to mankind. Peace be with that good soul! She must come in due time into the condition of her neighbour; and then, may the Lord strengthen her on the bed of languishing, and by some kind hand, like her own, make all her bed in her sickness."

SOAP.

Substitutes for Soap.—Put any quantity of pearlash or soda into a large jar, cover it lightly, and in a few days it will become liquid; then mix with it an equal quantity of newly-slaked lime, and double its quantity of soft water; boil it half an hour, add as much more hot water, and pour off the liquor. Two ounces of pearlash used with a pound and a half of soap will make a considerable saving. For coarse purposes soft soap is a saving of nearly half. The best way of keeping hard soap is to cut it, with a twine or wire, into pieces of about a pound each, and to keep it moderately dry. A little pipeclay dissolved in the water, or rubbed with the soap on the clothes, will give the dirtiest linens the appearance of having been bleached, will clean them with half the labour, and a saving of full one-fourth of the soap. Pipeclay will also render hard water nearly as soft as

rain water. Carpets, moreen curtains, or other woollens, may be cleaned with the coarse pulp of potatoes, used as a kind of soap with water. Put wood-ashes upon flannel in a sieve, pour upon them boiling water, and it will make a strong lye for washing. The horse-chesnut contains a soapy juice, useful in bleaching, and in washing linens and stuffs. The nuts must be peeled and ground, and the meal of twenty will be enough to mix with ten quarts of hot water, with which linens or woollens may be washed without soap, and then rinsed in spring water.

ON SOWING WHEAT AND OATS.

As many labourers' friends wish for information that will be of practical utility in their efforts to benefit their allotment tenants, we have published the following papers on sowing wheat and oats, on the authorities appended to them:—

Sowing of Wheat.—Wheat is sown before winter, after summer fallow potatoes, or beans, because, in all these cases, the ground can be prepared to receive the seeds at that time; and it is sown in spring, after turnips, cabbages, and such other crops as are not usually removed from the ground till that period. The time of sowing must depend on the state of the land, as well as the season. It is, however, generally recommended to put it into the ground as early as may be convenient in autumn; and on strong soils it is not unfrequently sown in the latter end of September, though more usually in the course of October and beginning of November. When wheat succeeds turnips, it is, indeed, sown by many farmers throughout the winter, according as the land is cleared, until the middle of March; but when deferred till that period, the seed chosen should be the produce of that which is sown early in the spring. Early sowing is, however, generally to be recommended, for late sown wheats are more liable to be mildewed; and even should they escape that disease, yet, if the season

proves unfavourable, they will not ripen so soon by many days as that which is sown earlier; and every experienced farmer well knows the importance to be attached to this circumstance in an unfavourable harvest.

Seed wheat is prepared before sowing by a process peculiar to itself, termed pickling. This is intended to prevent smut—a disease to which all the species of the genus triticum are subject. The nature and origin of the disease, as well as the mode of action of the pickle in preventing it, are, to a certain extent, involved in obscurity, although all practical farmers are unanimous as to the propriety of pickling as a preventive. Various substances are employed as pickle to wash the seed; but a solution of common salt in water, sufficiently strong to buoy up a fresh egg, has been proved to be as effective as any other, and being at all times easily procured, it is preferred. The process is thus performed:—Let a tub be provided, and partly filled with the pickle, and let a quantity of wheat, as a bushel, be put in at a time. Let the wheat be well stirred, and all the light grains which come to the top skimmed carefully off and thrown aside as useless. A short time is sufficient for the wheat to remain in the vessel. The successive portions of wheat thus pickled are to be allowed to drain a little, and then to be laid upon the barn floor, in layers, hot lime being at the same time sifted upon each layer. The purpose of spreading the lime is to dry the grain, which should then be carried immediately to the fields and sown. The lime used should be quite hot, and for this purpose it should be slaked at the time. Although the immediate purpose served by the application of lime is drying the grain, it may be believed that it also assists the action of the pickle in removing the tendency to the disease. The wheat, after being pickled, must not remain long unsown, otherwise its vegetative powers may be injured or destroyed. No more should be pickled a time than should be then sown. When from any se, as from rain intervening, it is not practicable to

sow the wheat for a day or two, it should be spread thinly upon the floor, but never kept in sacks, in which it would soon ferment. After pickling, it is therefore immediately carried to the field, and sown in the manner already described.

When the seed is sown broadcast, it is covered by the action of the harrow. No more harrowing should be given than is necessary to cover the seed, it being better, in the case of wheat, that there be a certain degree of roughness of clod; besides, land suffers severely during the winter from excessive harrowing, especially if it be incumbent on a close bottom. As to the precise quantity necessary, none can give an opinion, except those who are present. A double turn along the ridge, a double turn across, and again a single turn along, will in almost every case suffice; and often less, as a double turn along, and a single turn across, and perhaps in some cases the turn across may be dispensed with. When wheat is sown in drill, the usual distance between the rows is from nine to twelve inches, and a single turn of the harrow will be sufficient to cover in the seed. On the lighter class of soils, ploughing in the seed may be adopted. The seed is sown broadcast, in the manner already described, after which a shallow ploughing is given to the land. A slight degree of harrowing is sufficient in this case, or perhaps the harrowing may be altogether dispensed with.

The quantity of seed necessarily depends on the time of sowing and state of the land, land sown early requiring less seed than the same land when sown late, and poor land being at all times allowed more seed than rich. The quantity accordingly varies from two bushels, or less, to three, or sometimes four. Winter wheat, when sown in spring, should always have a liberal allowance of seed, as the plants have not time to tiller much, without unduly retarding their coming to maturity.—(*From a forthcoming work, by Mr. Sproule, Land-steward to N. Batt, Esq.*)

SOWING OATS.—Farmers commit a great mistake when they appropriate worn-out land to this crop: the very nature of the crop forbids the practice. Oats are great robbers of land, which at once implies that they must meet with something to rob, or perish in the attempt. It is much more profitable to sow them only on land in good condition; that is to say, after some fallow crop. Another error is fallen into as to carrots: it is believed that a sandy soil alone is fit for this vegetable. It is true that a sandy loam is what it most delights in; still any land short of strong clay may be made fit for carrots by deep ploughing or trenching. At all events, the deepest furrow that can be taken must be had recourse to; but beware of dunging the land the year the seed is sown, as in this case the roots are very apt to be scabby. A turnip fallow fed by sheep answers admirably, and no crop is more advantageous to the farmer. There is a well-attested fact of twenty horses, four bullocks, and six milch cows, having been fed for seven months on the produce of three acres of this root, together with a small daily portion of hay, and thirty hogs were kept in good condition on the refuse.—*Canterbury Weekly Journal.*

SPARROWS

Do more good than harm in a fruit-garden, and the shots that are intended for their destruction do much more harm than good, as any man of observation may see in the mutilated bark of fruit trees on the one hand, and the well-known propensity of the sparrows for insects on the other.—*Cottager's Monthly Visitor.*

STICKING PEAS.

THE following mode of sticking peas, and especially the taller varieties, is both cheap and simple, and possesses many advantages. Procure a number of strong thick stakes or thin poles, in length, according to the height of the peas, from five to ten feet, and drive them

into the ground on each side of the row, at the distance of three or four yards; pass a small line along the poles, taking a turn on each within a few inches of the ground, and as the peas advance raise the next turn a little higher, and so on in succession until they have attained their full height. Take the tendrils of the peas and truss them round these lines, by which they will be supported in a better manner than by the common method of sticking. When spread regularly along the lines, they have a fine circulation of air, and pods can be pulled at all times without injuring the haulm, and as the birds have no twigs to alight on, the portion of the crop which they otherwise would devour and destroy is saved. An excellent way to preserve peas or beans from mice is to chop up the tops of the last year's shoots of furze, and sow them in drills; the author has known it to have been an effectual remedy in several instances, where these mischievous little animals had been very prevalent.—*Vegetable Cultivator.*

CULTIVATION OF STRAWBERRIES.

The following information will be acceptable to such of the labourers' friends as encourage their tenants in the luxury of strawberries.

The London market-gardeners plant in rows, about two feet asunder, and place clean litter over the soil. Thus the fruit is preserved from dirt, and the gardeners and gatherers can walk between the rows of the extensive plantations without doing injury to anything. In private gardens we see reason to form only narrow beds, three feet wide, and of any convenient length, four rows in a bed, the plant six or eight inches apart. Prepare the ground by trenching two feet deep, and incorporate sound vegetable mould with the earth. Do the work early in September, keep the ground perfectly free from weeds, throw light soil, mixed with the best reduced dung, over the bed in December, so as to fill up every hollow close around the collars of all the plants. In

March cut off the withered old leaves, and rake the surface with a wooden rake. If any blossoms appear, cut them away, and do not suffer the plantation to have any fruit in the first year. Prepare a second bed in the same way, and treat it in every respect as the first was treated. Permit *that bed* to bear a full crop in the second year, and the product will demonstrate the value of this mode of proceeding. A third bed will complete the succession, and at the same time the second will come into bearing. The first bed may then be destroyed, and replanted, after deep digging and manuring. Lay mowings of grass among the plants that bear fruit, to preserve the trusses from being splashed. The directions above given comprise the routine of a mode of planting which is calculated to produce the best fruit in abundance; and the amateur gardener would do well to try it carefully. Our objection to long angle rows is that they occupy much room, and the fruit is rarely, if ever, preserved from dirt and mutilation. A plot formed as directed takes up little space, and is renewed without inconvenience.—*Farmer's Magazine.*

THE SUNFLOWER.

The value of this plant, which is easily cultivated, and ornamental to the garden, is scarcely known in most parts of the kingdom. The seeds form a most excellent and convenient food for poultry; and it is only necessary to cut off the heads of the plant when ripe, tie them in bunches, and hang them up in a dry situation, to be used as wanted. They not only fatten every kind of poultry, but greatly increase the quantity of eggs they lay. When cultivated to a considerable extent, they are also capital food for sheep and pigs, and for pheasants. The leaves, when dried, form a good powder for cattle; the dry stalks burn well, and form an abundance of alkali, and when in bloom, the flower is most attractive to bees.—*Chambers' Edinburgh Journal.*

TEA.

Economy in Tea.—As much carbonate of soda (to be had at the chemist's) as will lie on a fourpenny piece, put into the teapot with two teaspoonfulls of tea, and the usual quantity of water, will make it as strong as three teaspoonfuls without it.

Test of pure Tea.—Make your tea in a large tea-pot, then pour off the first filling up of water, and, instead of replenishing the tea-pot for a second cup, turn out the leaves on a plate. If they are real tea, they will retain the usual colour; but if they are sloe, or ash, or any other such production, the false colouring matter will have been carried off in the water, and the leaves will remain quite black.—*Literary Chronicle.*

TEMPER.

Both the good-tempered and the ill-tempered may find their advantage in committing to memory the following precepts of holy writ—

"The discretion of a man deferreth his anger, and it is his glory to pass by a transgression."

"He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly."

"He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding; but he that is of a hasty spirit exalteth folly."

"A soft answer turneth away wrath; but grievous words stir up anger."

"He that hath no rule over his own spirit, is like a city broken down, and without walls."

"He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty: and he that ruleth his spirit, than he that taketh a city."

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

"Let the same mind be in you that was also in Christ Jesus."

"Those that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please themselves. Let every

one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.

"Put on, therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering, forbearing one another, and forgiving one another: if any man have a quarrel against any, even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."—*The Family Book.*

THATCHING.

The Somersetshire mode, with *unbruised* straw, provincially termed reed, instead of bruised straw with the ears on it, is preferable to all other. It lasts nearly as long again as common straw, and does not tempt birds and vermin with corn remaining in imperfectly thrashed straw, to make holes in the thatch. A sheaf of wheat is placed in a reed press, made of two pieces of wood, ten feet long, and put on a stool, and having women to lay hold of the ears of corn, who draw out the straw, and cut off the caps, and then bind up the sheaf for use. In this process women are usefully employed in wet weather, and the corn is more easily thrashed in short ears than in the long straw.

A THOUGHT ON PRAYER.

"Our prayers should always be mixed with thanksgivings. We receive much, we enjoy much, and we deserve nothing: truly then it befits us, when we ask for new mercies, to acknowledge past ones; when we ask for new comforts, to praise a covenant God for past bestowments. Oh how much has the poorest, the meanest, to be thankful for! and how much more still they whose lives are crowned with loving-kindness and mercy!"

A THOUGHT ON REPENTANCE.

It is very becoming in us, who inhabit a world of pollution, and have, as expressed in scripture, "evil hearts of unbelief," in departing from God to seek the

Spirit of God for repentance. Repentance, says an author, originates in conviction of sin, is manifested by a concern of the mind which nothing can divert, and is renewed and deepened by the word of God, which penetrates the heart, and discovers hidden depths of vanity and sin which no words are sufficient to describe. True repentance is deep, universal, and not partial, as was the repentance of Judas; it is productive, and not barren; it must be abiding, and not transient.

THE COMPLAINT OF TIME.

I COMPLAIN that, as a parent, I have given you many opportunities of speaking a word in season to your family and children, but you have neglected to seize the moment: the time has flown away, and those opportunities of usefulness are lost for ever. I complain that I have given you, as a professed Christian, many golden opportunities of improvement in the closet, in the sanctuary, and in the world,—but you have been slothful, and remiss, or busied yourself with earthly cares, and now you can only mourn over past neglect. Improve your present moments as they pass, for if you now tremble at the lapse of time, what will be your feelings in the future, when I shall have finished my course,—rest from my weary round,—and no longer make any division of eternity into time, of years into months, of months into weeks, days, hours, minutes, and seconds. I shall not then warn of time or eternity: these monitions and warnings are merciful in this life; but remember that the last sand of your hour-glass will soon have run its course, and then eternity, with all its boundless prospects, will open before you.

TOBACCO.

WHEN the fashion was so strong in England that James I. could get no one to preach against it, his own royal hand took the pen and wrote a treatise, which he denominates "A Counterblast to Tobacco." The strength

of his princely antidote may be gathered from the following closing paragraph of his royal counterblast. "It is a custom loathsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, and dangerous to the lungs."

Experienced people tell us that the habit of using tobacco in any shape, will after a time render you emaciated and consumptive, your spirits low and moody, your throat dry and demanding stimulating drinks, your person filthy, and your habits those of a swine.

TRUE RELIGION.

The Christian knows that the only way to be happy is to be holy: and it is a libel upon religion to say that there is no pleasure in it.

VACCINATION.

It is grievous to see that small-pox still continues its destruction in many parts of the country; and this is generally found to be where vaccination has been neglected. Before the discovery of vaccination, the small-pox generally prevailed in our parishes about once in every three years. But so great has been the change that for twenty years together, many parishes have had no small-pox; and in some it appears to have been altogether put an end to. This is proof enough of the power of vaccination. But there has been one bad effect arising from this; for people, seeming to have forgotten their dread of small-pox, have taken no trouble about the matter, and have neglected to use the means by which they might hope to be secured. Thus, in some parishes, there has been little or no vaccination for many years; and then, when some person brings the small-pox into the parish, the greater number of people are ready to take it: those who have not been vaccinated are pretty sure to take it: and thus we see that a whole parish may be brought to suffer by this dreadful disease, when it might have been kept away, if all the people had been vaccited when they were young. Some people still say that

vaccination is of no use, for that people who have been vaccinated take the small-pox? This may be true; but it is very few indeed who take it out of the whole number of those who have been vaccinated. Experience plainly proves that vaccination does keep off small-pox; though it cannot be called certain and infallible; and nothing in this world is so. But when it is plain that a great deal of misery and distress is prevented by this method, it appears to be a clear duty to use with thankfulness so great an advantage.

Probably a chief cause of what are *called* cases of small-pox *after* vaccination was thus stated by a medical man—"I vaccinate, perhaps, twenty children in a morning, begging to see them on a given day. Not a third are brought. How am I to know whether the vaccination has taken with the rest or not? and yet, if a case of small-pox occurs amongst them, it will be said that the child was vaccinated by me, but took the small-pox afterwards," never having ascertained that the vaccination had taken.

VINEGAR.

VINEGAR may be easily and cheaply made by attention to the following directions:—Take one pound of coarse brown sugar to a quart of water; boil them together, taking off the scum; when that ceases to rise, pour off the liquor; and when it has cooled down to the same temperature as beer in the process of brewing, throw in a piece of hot toasted bread spread with yeast. In twenty-four hours, put the whole into an iron-hooped barrel, placed near the fire; or in summer, where it may have the sun the greater part of the day. The barrel must not be bunged up; only place a tile, or anything else that will keep out dust and insects, over the bung-hole. In three months, or sometimes less, the vinegar will be clear and fit for use, it should then be bottled off, and the longer it is kept in bottle the better it will be.

WALNUT KETCHUP.

Green walnut hulls, placed in a deep earthen pan, with layers of bay salt between them, and let them stand a week, often crushing them; then pour off the liquor, and simmer and skim it; put to every two quarts an ounce and a half of whole ginger, the same of whole allspice, an ounce of whole black pepper, and half an ounce of cloves; boil slowly about half an hour, and when cold, bottle, and keep in a cool and dry place.—*Family Hand-Book.*

WASTE NOT; WANT NOT.

The establishment of Mr. and Mrs. Sutton was no less distinguished for strict economy than for generous liberality.

I never knew people more concerned that their servants, and all persons employed by them, should be furnished with whatever could really contribute to their comfort, nor have I ever known a family more prompt in extending relief and assistance to others: yet I never knew a house, rich or poor, where a stricter economy was practised. They could not endure to see the waste of a bit of bread, or firing; or the destruction even of a kitchen cloth for want of being taken care of and properly mended. Some of the neighbours called them stingy; but this was far from the truth. Indeed, I believe that, by frugality, they were enabled in a much greater degree to practise liberality.

WATER.

Water and Steam.—Hard water, by boiling, may be brought nearly to the state of soft. A piece of chalk put into spring water will soften it. When the steam from a tea kettle appears cloudy, it should be taken off the fire, as the water is then fast boiling away. Keep the top of the kettle bright, as a polished surface keeps in heat.

Purify Water.—It is not so generally known as it

ought to be, that pounded alum possesses the property of purifying water. A large table-spoonful of powdered alum sprinkled into a hogshead of water, (the water stirred round at the time,) will, after the lapse of a few hours, by sending to the bottom all the impure particles, so purify it that it will be found to possess nearly all the freshness and clearness of the finest spring water. A pailful containing four gallons, may be purified by a single tea-spoonful.

WATER CRESSES.

The grateful and salutary qualities of this vegetable are too well known to need description; but at certain periods of the year, when perhaps the cress is in its best state for the table, it is common for the under part of the leaves to have a white gelatinous substance adhering to them, which cannot be removed by washing: and small snails are also fixed on them. It may be useful to many to learn, that if the cresses are put into a strong brine, made with common salt and water, and suffered to remain there ten minutes, or less, everything of the animal or insect kind will be detached from the leaves, and the cresses can afterwards be washed in pure water, and sent to table. Small salads, cabbages, cauliflower, brocoli, celery, lettuces, and vegetables of all descriptions, by the same simple method, may be freed from slugs, worms, or insects. If a jar of brine is kept for the purpose, and strained after being used, it will last many weeks, and the expense, of course, be trifling.—*Northampton Herald.*

WATERING PLANTS.

Never water plants while the sun shines. Water from a well or cold spring should be exposed to the sun for a day, or it will chill the plants. Give a small quantity at a time, that it may have the effect of rain, and not wash away the finest mould from the roots; it should be cast at rather than poured on, plants, that it may

more lightly. Rain water is best—then river water; pond water is not so good for plants; hard spring water is the worst. Water left in the pans under pots rots the roots. The leaves of such plants as are juicy, seldom want watering.

WEEDING.

Destroying Weeds.—Docks and some sorts of weeds are very difficult to get out of the ground, being apt to shoot again, if any part of the root is left. The following simple and easy method of extirpating them may not be unacceptable to our agricultural readers:—Cut off the top of the root with the corner of a hoe, and sprinkle thereon a few grains of common salt; and such is the effect of the saline particles upon that part of the root remaining in the ground, that it decays in a short time, and is no longer troublesome.

Weeding turned to Good Account.—Sir John Sinclair states that great attention is paid by the Flemish farmers to the weeding of their land. The weeds collected in spring, particularly when boiled, are much relished by milch cows; and in various parts of Flanders the farmers get their lands weeded by the children of the neighbouring cottagers, solely for the privilege of procuring those weeds for their cows, and thus converting a nuisance into a benefit.—Might not this be applicable for cottagers' cows?

CHEAP RECIPE FOR WHITEWASHING A COTTAGE.

THERE is something particularly comfortable-looking and healthy in a clean, whitewashed cottage; and as poor people are often denied this comfort from the expense attending it, I give the following recipe, to enable them to do it themselves. The expense is merely for the lime, and should be done with a proper brush. Put half a peck of lime into a tub; pour in some water by degrees, and stir it well with a stick that is broad at one

end. When the lime and water are well mixed, and the thickness of mud, strain it through a sieve into another vessel, when it will settle to the bottom; skim off the little water that remains at the top, and when you are going to use it mix it up with cold water, to the thickness of thin paint. The house will be quite dry, and also may be scoured, in two hours.

THE HIGHEST WISDOM.

Ours is a reasonable religion. It provides for the happiness of man through the eternal ages of his existence. Notwithstanding this all-important fact, be it ever recollected that reason has been, by the fall, dethroned, and that which is now termed reason and intelligence is vanity, in reference to our highest good; while faith, the restoration of right reason, is the gift of God. Let it, therefore, be sought with suitable diligence, and, O glorious truth! it will never be sought in vain. "What," says one, "is the reason carnal men leave Christ for the pleasures of the world?" "Because the pleasures of the world are real things to them; therefore, unless God makes the things of another world real to a man he will never leave realities for notions. All that reason or notions can represent of Christ will never take a man's heart off from the real things he sees here below; therefore, God comes and weighs down the reality of the things of this world by the reality of the things of the other world." How reasonable!

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